

Law Enforcement News

Vol. XXVIII, No. 584

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

September 30, 2002

In this issue:

Around The Nation: A coast-to-coast roundup of police news. **Pages 2, 3.**
People & Places: Still No. 1; back to square one; a chief's heavy lifting; personal problems; learning new tricks; the chief of chiefs, talking a blue streak. **Page 4.**
Say "when": Self-diagnosis for would-be DWIs. **Page 5.**
Sweet idea: Making it easier to tell diabetics from drunks. **Page 5.**
Trouble in the air: Is the sky marshal program riddled with problems? **Page 5.**
Hard choice: Portland PD takes a bite out of community policing effort. **Page 6.**
Moving messages: Agencies consider private advertising on squad cars. **Page 6.**
Numbers game: UCR & BJS agree to disagree. **Page 6.**
Any takers? Little interest in free DNA tests. **Page 6.**
Point & shoot: Police under fire over photos. **Page 7.**
Keeping hope alive: Web site tries to link remains with names of missing. **Page 7.**
Raising funds, but for whom? PAL pulls the plug on fundraiser. **Page 7.**
Where's the money? DoJ calls tribe on the carpet over COPS grant. **Page 7.**
Forum: Secrets of strategic decision-making. **Page 9.**
In a crossfire: Crowd-control tactics criticized from two sides. **Page 10.**
Flying solo: Oklahoma HP gets ready to do its own crime investigations. **Page 10.**
Upcoming Events: Opportunities for professional development. **Page 11.**
Little to go on: Hunt pressed hunt for serial killer. **Page 11.**

Final score: Columbus 1, DoJ 0

City wins after forcing feds to show their hand on consent decree

When Columbus, Ohio, officials decided in 1999 that they would fight the Justice Department in court rather than agree to the terms of a consent decree, the action broke new ground. And when a federal judge this month dismissed the three-year-old federal civil rights suit, the city made history.

The ruling on Sept. 3 by U.S. District Judge John Holschuh came after the city outlined to federal prosecutors the steps it had taken to improve the Columbus Division of Police.

"We've made a tremendous amount of improvement and we're not done," Mayor Michael Coleman told *The Associated Press*. "We've worked very hard at trying to build trust and accountability. Basically what we've done is changed the way we do business."

Columbus became the first city in the nation to force the Justice Department to prove a range of allegations against police, including the use of excessive force and improper searches and seizures. The Justice Department's response came in the form of a six-page document filed in Federal District Court on Oct. 21, 1999, following a 16-month investigation by the DoJ's civil rights division. Not only did police make false arrests, the filing said, but municipal officials tolerated police misconduct by improperly training officers and not investigating complaints.

City leaders had been willing to sign a consent decree that would have put the department under the scrutiny of a federal monitor, but opposition by the local Fraternal Order of Police scuttled the agreement on the grounds that it would have violated the city's collective bargaining contract.

A federal magistrate made the union a party to the suit, and the FOP began assessing members \$25 per month, as well as receiving \$10 contributions from officers in surrounding counties, to amass what became a \$500,000 war chest to pursue the litigation.

"Now that this is done, the FOP felt they were right that they did it, and the officers are happy," Bill Capretta, president of FOP Capitol City Lodge No. 9, told *Law Enforcement News*. "We could get rid of the assessment, which was money coming out of their paycheck, but more important, there is no federal intervention, no federal mandate on the city of Columbus. They just pulled up their stakes and left."

Coleman said the city would provide the Justice Department with videotaped copies of recruit and in-service training. New procedures on use of force, and the installation of videocameras and audio recorders in cruisers, have also been implemented, he said.

The Justice Department has reserved the right to reinstate its suit if the police division does not continue its improvements.

"After the thing was forced to go to court, the FOP and the city found they had a whole lot more in common than either of them did with the DoJ," James E. Phillips, the attorney who repre-

sented the Columbus FOP, told *The AP*. "While the FOP and the city don't agree on every point, just like they don't in Tulsa, they soon agreed that the destiny of the local police department should be determined locally."

Earlier this year, the Tulsa, Okla., FOP hired Phillips's law firm, Vorys,

Sater, Seymour and Pease, to defend it against a class-action civil rights suit brought by a group of black police officers. As a result of the case, the Justice Department sent investigators to Tulsa a year and a half ago to look into whether a pattern of abuse existed

Continued on Page 8

Pitt is let off the hook

A federal judge in Pittsburgh this month split the difference with the city and removed the Pittsburgh Police Bureau from the oversight imposed under a consent decree in 1997, but ordered that the Office of Municipal Investigations remain under supervision.

Pittsburgh became the first city to sign such an agreement after the Justice Department was given the authority to sue law enforcement agencies for alleged civil-rights abuses by the 1994 omnibus crime

control act. Federal prosecutors at that time said they could prove that the police bureau had engaged in excessive force, made false arrests and conducted improper searches. Although city officials denied the allegations then — and continue to do so — they entered into the decree, which led to a series of implemented reforms.

In August, the Justice Department filed a joint petition with the city asking that it be released from

Continued on Page 8

Bottoms-up management is a team effort in Lexington

The change in organizational structure at the Lexington, Mass., Police Department may have come from the top, but the way the agency goes about its business these days is pretty much a bottoms-up proposition.

In 1997, the department underwent a sea change. Instead of clinging to a traditional, quasi-military policing model, it adopted a team-based approach that brought both ranking and non-ranking officers into the decision-making process.

"Ninety percent of this business is service-related, or it involves criminal

investigation after the fact," Chief Christopher Casey told *Law Enforcement News*. "That means that you can really think about policing as a public service business where it is better to tap the talent, ability and skill of all your employees, at all levels of the department, not just exclusively those who have rank or authority."

Lexington's successful transition began with Town Manager Richard White, who introduced the concept of high-performance teams in the early 1990s, Casey said. By bringing together the heads of all municipal departments to work collaboratively on a variety of issues, White hoped to break down bureaucratic barriers. Eventually, each of Lexington's 13 senior department heads were asked to adopt the strategy within their own agencies.

Casey began with a confidential survey that queried a cross-section of the agency on leadership, operational and strategic issues. It came as no surprise, he said, to learn that the LPO was a solid department with employees who cared about the organization and were willing to work together. What was surprising were the comments he received on his performance as chief.

"On the one hand, it was very reinforcing and supportive," said Casey. "Patrolmen were saying hurry up with the changes, we like the direction the organization is going in. On the other hand, the middle and upper managers were saying, 'You've got your mind made up and you ask us for input, but unless we say what you want to hear, you're not really open to it.'"

"It was a real eye-opener for me,"

the chief said.

The feedback was so effective that Casey decided to try the same approach with his captains and lieutenants. Each rank was assessed by those under their supervision via confidential survey. Eventually, a focus group was put together, and working with consultants, commanders went to the staff they interviewed and asked if they wanted to work on a problem-solving team.

"That seemed risky," said Casey, "but looking back, it wasn't really a risk. You're afraid as a manager about giving up control, you're empowering employees to solve a problem. What are they going to come up with? It's a lot of unknowns. The reality is, it invests in the employees. They want the same top-notch organization we want."

As important, Casey ardently believes that if change is to occur in a police organization, it is the chief who must be willing to change him or herself. "They have to model the change they expect in others," he said.

The first test of team-based management came when the focus group, which had been expanded to include dispatchers and patrol officers, along with sergeants and lieutenants, decided the department needed new uniforms. While it might not seem so, it was an issue of some significance. The light-blue uniforms had a long tradition, but the officers felt they made them look different from their counterparts in other agencies.

Casey said he panicked at first, thinking about the tens of thousands of dollars that would be needed to re-out-

Continued on Page 10

Most Virginia chiefs like their incident-based crime reports

Three years after the FBI certified Virginia as an "Incident-Based Reporting" state, most if not all police officials there contend that the far more detailed information they now collect on offenses is giving them a better overall picture of crime in their communities and more to work with in terms of planning crime-fighting strategies.

The year 2000 represented the first full year that the majority of police agencies in Virginia used incident-based reporting, as opposed to conventional uniform crime reporting. Virginia was the ninth state in the nation to be certified by the FBI.

Unlike the UCR's hierarchical system, which recognizes only the most serious offense, incident-based reporting requires that each crime that oc-

curred during an incident be documented in detail.

"It gives you a more accurate picture of the crime situation in any given community," Poquoson Police Chief John T. White, the president of the state's chiefs' association, said in an interview with *Law Enforcement News*. "When you look at any given crime, and you look at different localities to see how that crime is flourishing from one locality to another, you're comparing apples to apples, rather than sometimes apples to tangerines, which the old system did a lot of."

Incident-based reporting has become an integral part of the Chesterfield County Police Department's planning, said Lou Moore, the agency's commander of support services. It is

particularly effective, he added, when used with the agency's new data-collection procedures. Instead of filing incident reports by hand, Chesterfield officers can phone them in to a records clerk at headquarters.

"We get consolidation of information more quickly, and therefore can get a case in the hands of a detective more quickly," he told *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*. "We have information more readily available earlier because our reporting is now 'real time,' as opposed to filling out the form and sending it to the record room and entering it when you have people available."

The 22 categories of crime provided by IBR, covering 46 different offenses, allow an agency to target crime, as well

Continued on Page 10

Around the Nation

Northeast

MAINE — About 2,000 convicted sex offenders failed to register with authorities by a Sept. 1 deadline, after a new law expanded the number of crimes covered by the state's sex-offender registration law. The new law requires anyone convicted of any of 12 different sex crimes between 1992 and 1999 to register. Authorities said that for now they were only interested in completing the list and will not prosecute latecomers.

While responding to a report of a burglary, Portland police found a ram in a man's apartment. The tenant, Ryan Cyr, who had been out of town for a few days, said he didn't know how the ram got there. Although police suspect that the animal was meant as a practical joke, the amount of damage that was done, including animal waste throughout the apartment and a carpet and sofa that had been eaten, could mean criminal charges for the prankster.

MARYLAND — A bizarre incident at a Washington Redskins football game on Sept. 16 has prompted the Prince George's County Police Department to review its policy on the use of pepper spray. The pepper spray was used when a fight broke out among several fans, but the spray wafted over to the Philadelphia Eagles' bench, causing several players to choke and vomit before being treated with oxygen and wet towels. A police spokesman said that the department stands by the sergeant who used the spray and that the review may not necessarily lead to any changes in policy.

MASSACHUSETTS — Federal authorities are investigating a series of letters mailed to 11 police stations in Essex County that were labeled "Black September" and contained a white powder. The powder tested negative for anthrax but police departments throughout the county were shut down for several hours. The FBI will try to determine if the letters were a reference to the Sept. 11 attacks. Black September is also the name of a Palestinian terrorist group that took credit for the killing of 11 members of the Israeli Olympic team in 1972.

A bill passed by state lawmakers and expected to be signed by acting Governor Jane Swift will make it a state crime to make terrorist threats over the Internet, carry a weapon in secure areas of an airport, or possess material that could be used in a weapon of mass destruction. The measure will also expand state authority in issuing permits for buildings used in explosive manufacturing or storage. Legislators agreed

to delete a controversial provision that would have revoked the driver's licenses of foreign nationals with expired visas.

In Wakefield, resources from the Northeast Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council and the Metropolitan Law Enforcement Council have covered most of the overtime and equipment costs incurred at a recent meeting of the World Church of the Creator, a white supremacist group. About 250 police officers, many of them in full riot gear, patrolled the area near the gathering at a local library, which attracted about 40 supporters and 600 protesters.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — Rochester Police Chief David Dubois said that his department will be cutting back on nonemergency services to reduce overtime costs. Since July, he said, the department has spent about \$25,900, or more than a third of its \$70,000 budget, on overtime. Among the services affected will be "things that deal with the quality of life rather than crime," Dubois said.

NEW JERSEY — The state police has promoted its first female and first Hispanic lieutenant colonels. Lori Hennon-Bell, a 22-year veteran, will oversee administrative operations, and Juan Mattos, a 27-year veteran, will be in charge of investigations.

NEW YORK — An audit by New York City comptroller William Thompson has concluded that the police department's domestic violence tracking system, created in 2000 at a cost of \$1.17 million, has not met objectives. The audit, which included recommendations for improvement, found that 80 percent of the city's officers do not find the system user-friendly.

The state Office of Homeland Security has launched a statewide hotline for citizens to use to report suspicious activities they believe to be terrorist related. Information that is received will be referred to local, county, state and federal agencies.

The lawyer for former New York police officer Charles Schwarz is calling his client's plea deal with prosecutors a legal triumph. Schwarz, who was accused of lying about being present during the 1997 stationhouse assault on Abner Louima, accepted a deal that included a gag order in exchange for a lighter sentence. If he abides by the order, he will serve only 47 months, or less than three years with good behavior, instead of the maximum five years he had faced if convicted. Schwarz had already been through three trials on civil rights and perjury charges.

The New York City Police Department will begin using digital photography in place of Polaroid photos to record evidence of domestic violence in Brooklyn. The digital photos are already being used in Queens, where prosecutors say they have a greater impact at trial. Digital photos can also be sent immediately to judges via computer and may help move cases through the system faster.

PENNSYLVANIA — Allentown police officers will soon have a new office, desk, telephone and fax machine inside a 7-Eleven store. Officers in east Allentown will no longer have to drive

back to headquarters to drop off reports but can fax them from the substation. To date, the convenience store chain has donated facilities for more than 200 "police community network centers" nationwide.

In the past year, hundreds of suburban Philadelphia police officers have attended racial sensitivity and civil rights training sessions aimed at helping to eliminate culture misunderstanding. The training includes a course in Middle Eastern and South Asian religions and customs.

Southeast

ALABAMA — Federal prosecutors are cracking down on felons caught carrying guns in Alabama under a program called ICE, or Isolating the Criminal Element. Under ICE, those who violate laws preventing certain individuals — including domestic abusers, illegal aliens and drug dealers — from carrying guns, will face federal prosecution and harsher sentences. The program has so far caused a 12-percent rise in gun prosecutions since the start of fiscal year 2002.

FLORIDA — Some police departments in northern Palm Beach County have organized a multi-agency tactical unit to back-up the sheriff's tactical squad. The idea of a collaborative SWAT team was debated among the chiefs of 10 municipalities that make up the North Area Mutual Aid Consortium. Some equipment has already been acquired and joint training exercises began in September.

Largo Police Chief Lester Aradi has suspended the city's controversial midnight-to-dawn curfew for juveniles after a court decided that similar curfews in Tampa and Pinellas Park were unconstitutional.

The Fort Myers Police Department has adopted a new policy banning racial slurs, five months after civil rights leaders demanded an investigation into an incident in which police Maj. Matt Chapelle admitted telling a joke in which he used derogatory slang regarding blacks. Chapelle has since said that he did not mean to be offensive.

LOUISIANA — Since January 2000, 10 New Orleans officers have been disciplined for off-duty DWI arrests or accidents and three more officers are being investigated, according to a report in The Times-Picayune. Causeway Police Chief Felix Loicano, who retired from the New Orleans Police Department as commander of the Public Integrity Division, said the recent spike "seems abnormally high." One of the officers arrested recently hit a taxi enforcement officer, knocking him over a highway guardrail to his death.

NORTH CAROLINA — Despite having her home set on fire recently, possibly by drug dealers, a 53-year-old Greensboro woman says she will continue to fight the infestation of drugs into her neighborhood. Fed up with the drug problem in her eastside neighborhood, Toni Henderson began handing out fliers to local drug dealers that says

"Crack selling will not be tolerated in this community." Police Sgt. Mike Toomes said that people should probably not confront dealers on their own because of the danger.

TENNESSEE — Donnie Weathers and his wife have left their home of 35 years because they feel their lives are in danger ever since Weathers killed an intruder in self-defense. Although authorities in Frayser ruled it a justifiable homicide, as word of 19-year-old Otis Yarbrough's death in August spread, an angry mob gathered outside the Weathers's home. Two days after the incident, shots were fired into their home and the couple spent the night huddled in the hallway. Weathers hired a security guard to stand by as he and his wife put their possessions into a rented truck. They would not disclose where they were going.

VIRGINIA — Richmond Police Chief Andre Parker announced that a summer-long multiagency crackdown on gun-toting criminals has resulted in the seizure of 143 illegal guns and 94 firearms-related arrests. U.S. Attorney Paul McNulty credited Operation Weapons Enforcement Blitz with helping to cut Richmond's homicide rate.

Roanoke has laid claim to being the only city in the country to have its police, fire and sheriff's departments nationally accredited. The last piece of the puzzle fell into place when the city's Fire-EMS Department was accredited in August by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. The sheriff's office was accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in 1987 and by the American Correctional Association in 1994. The police department was first accredited in 1994 by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

A grievance panel has ruled against three white Roanoke police officers who claimed that two other officers, both of them black, were unfairly promoted above them despite lower-ranking evaluations. The panel ruled that Det. Scott Altizer and officers Rick Drewery and Susan Camper failed to prove that the city didn't follow its promotional procedures and policies. The three have also filed federal lawsuits.

Midwest

ILLINOIS — The Waukegan City Council has agreed to drop the 24-year-old residency requirement for police officers. Mayor Richard Hyde said that the rule created more trouble than it was worth and dropping it may increase competition for Waukegan police jobs. The end of the residency rule is part of a new four-year labor contract.

A new state law makes it a felony to purposely kill or permanently disable a police dog. Sentences can range up to five years in prison if the dog dies. In 1995, a Dupage County police dog named Rocco was struck and killed by a drunk driver. The driver was sentenced to 30 months in prison on traffic charges.

William S. Bily, 56, who is accused of

using a radio transmitter to interfere with police communications, was ordered by a Cook County judge to turn over all his equipment after his hobby may have contributed to the death of Barrington Police Officer Stephen Graham. The officer went to Bily's home to arrest him and a struggle ensued, during which Graham collapsed. He died later that morning and the Cook County medical examiner said that the heart failure was brought on by the struggle. Bily has not been charged with causing Graham's death.

INDIANA — Former Elkhart police officer Bruce Davison was awarded \$200,000 by a jury after claiming he was defamed by former Elkhart mayor James Perron in a letter to the city's daily newspaper in 1994. In the letter, Perron said that Davison was soft on crime and abused his privileges as a police officer. Perron's lawyer said that he plans to appeal.

MICHIGAN — The Detroit City Council has unanimously passed a resolution seeking an end to the requirement that officers assigned to the mayor's security detail salute the mayor each time he exits his home or vehicle. A police spokeswoman said the department would consider changing the policy, which has been on the books since 1972.

OHIO — The Cincinnati City Council has voted to repeal an ordinance that forbids anyone to wear a mask in public except for medical need, holiday observances, or for sporting or special events. The ordinance, originally enacted in 1990 after the city lost a legal battle to keep a KKK group from conducting a rally, was challenged by the ACLU.

The death of Dayton police officer Mary Beall from a blood infection two years after she was shot and paralyzed by a gunman has been ruled a homicide. Beall, who died on Aug. 25, was shot once in the neck on May 15, 2000 by Raham Twitty. Montgomery County Coroner James Davis said that Beall's paralysis prevented her from being able to regulate secretions in her lungs and the resultant bacteria that formed in her lungs became resistant to antibiotics.

Mark Mixner, 39, who pulled a car over while impersonating a police officer in order to coerce a woman he followed from a West Carrollton nightclub into having sex with him, was sentenced Sept. 4 to two years in prison and fined \$3,000. The judge also designated Mixner a sexual offender, requiring him to register with authorities for the next 10 years.

Investigators have found body parts they believe to be from a missing 14-year-old Wooster girl, Kristen Jackson. Joel Yockey, 46, a registered sex offender who had been living with his parents in the girl's neighborhood since his release from prison for kidnapping and raping another Wooster teenager was arrested.

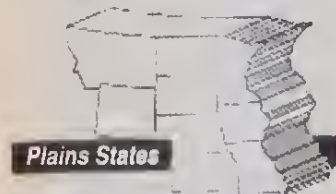
WEST VIRGINIA — The Cahell County Magistrate Court has dismissed 17 cases, including eight for drunken driving, because the officers involved were laid off. Huntington laid off 16 officers in July due to the city's budget problems. Although police officers, even those who have been laid off, are

MOVING?

Don't leave Law Enforcement News behind. To ensure best service, please send change-of-address notices to the Subscription Department at least 6-8 weeks prior to effective date.

obligated to appear if they receive a subpoena, in many cases it is not clear that they received the subpoenas.

The first notorious "tagger" to be targeted by Charleston police in its crack-down on graffiti, Chris Fore, has been ordered to clean up the 62 parcels of property he spray-painted. City officials are also enforcing a local ordinance that requires property owners to pay for graffiti cleanup. The best deterrent, said police officer Duke Jordan, whose main function is tracking graffiti vandals, is law enforcement. He said that the number of vandals plaguing the city has diminished since he took on the enforcement task more than a year ago, and believes it's just a matter of time before police arrest all of them.



Plains States

IOWA — In addition to new paint jobs, in-car video cameras and laptop computers, Clinton police cruisers have been outfitted with bars on their rear windows, which are intended to prevent damage. Since April, two patrol cars were damaged by angry passengers who kicked out the rear windows. The cost of the bars is less than the \$2,156 spent to repair the damage.

Gary Wells, a professor of psychology at Iowa State University, has been awarded a \$330,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study ways of making eyewitness identification a more scientific procedure. Wells said that his new research will look at how computer-enhanced sketch artist's drawings negatively affect eyewitness memories. In over 80 percent of the DNA exoneration cases that he has worked on, Wells said, the people were convicted on mistaken identity.

Acting on a recommendation from Police Chief Kim Wadling, Dubuque City Manager Mike Van Milligen has approved a six-month pilot program that will allow officers to switch from 8-hour to 10-hour work days. The Dubuque Police Protective Association had sought the schedule change, saying it would benefit the department as well as officers by eliminating overtime and allowing for overlap during peak periods.

Police in Muscatine say that the city, once plagued by gang violence, is much calmer due to successful prosecutions, a specialized anti-gang unit, supervised after-school activities for children and a community watch program. This year through Sept. 10, police have received 145 calls to an area that was once the Latin Kings turf. In 2001, there were 257 calls in the area.

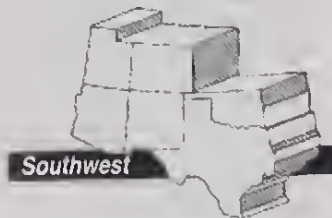
KANSAS — A Wichita man, convinced that someone was watching his two daughters shower at night, nabbed the peeping tom with a homemade trap made from a line. The man and his wife became aware of the problem when a chair in the yard kept being moved to a spot beneath their bathroom window. Rigging a tripwire tied to a stool inside the house, they caught a 31-year-old neighbor moving the chair to peak in the window when their 6-year-old daughter was showering.

MISSOURI — The St. Charles County Sheriff's Department recovered a stolen car equipped with the OnStar navigation and driver-assistance system. OnStar first called the department and told them a customer's car had been stolen and narrowed the car's location down to a particular block. When police could not locate the vehicle, OnStar remotely beeped the car's horn, alerting the police to the exact house where the vehicle was hidden in a locked garage, was recovered. The home owner was charged with receiving stolen property and a friend was charged with first-degree tampering.

Springfield has been chosen as one of 5 cities across the nation to participate in the Integrated Drug Enforcement Program, a federal program that focuses on drug prevention instead of punishment. Program coordinator Pam Brown said that Springfield "had all the ingredients," for selection, including community and Congressional support, as well as a legitimate enforcement need. Last year, Missouri closed down more meth labs — 1,599 — than any other state, even surpassing California, which closed 1,472.

NEBRASKA — After a state trooper stopped two Detroit men of Middle Eastern descent for speeding on Interstate 80, and then arrested them after finding 300,000 tablets of suspected pseudoephedrine, authorities are investigating whether they are part of a drug ring that has links to overseas terrorist organizations. Federal authorities say they recently found hard evidence of a Midwest methamphetamine ring that sends money to terror groups like the Lebanon-based Hezbollah.

SOUTH DAKOTA — A new Web site will allow people to see how many sex offenders live in any area of the state via a dot-density map. A law prohibits the state from giving out specific addresses online, but local law enforcement agencies can provide that information for their area.



Southwest

ARIZONA — The city of Mesa is considering a proposal to auction off impounded firearms, including handguns and rifles, to licensed gun dealers. Illegal guns and those valued at less than \$100 would be destroyed.

Under a "health and safety emergency" exception to federal privacy laws, officials at the University of Arizona have supplied the FBI with names and other information on thousands of international students who attended the university from spring 2000 to fall 2001. Between Sept. 11 and the end of June, the university received and complied with more than a dozen requests from law enforcement for student records.

COLORADO — The Denver Police Protective Association plans to survey its membership about the department's administration and the sources of ongoing tension. Police chief Gerry Whitman and union members have been sparring over items like proposed budget cuts, disciplinary cases and the

possible creation of a commander rank. Police observers, however, say that Whitman is well liked by many community groups and public trust has increased under his leadership.

A statewide 800-megahertz digital communication system, which was to be up and running by the end of 2005, has been pushed back a year because the state does not have the proper funding. To date, \$47 million has been spent on the project, but an additional \$15 million is on hold because of the economic downturn. The system will connect between 20,000 and 25,000 radios from state and local police agencies and sheriff's departments.

NEW MEXICO — The Albuquerque City Council is considering a bill that would require all city landlords to take a crime course offered by the police department to help them spot signs of possible criminal activity among tenants. The department already offers the course but few have taken it.

Torrance County emergency services coordinator Bruce Dile said that since last year's Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, more money had been made available for emergency services. He recently received a \$12,000 federal "Weapons of Mass Destruction" grant, which he plans to use to buy four full-body hazmat suits and 51 gas masks. The county has also received \$5,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy to purchase a utility trailer that will be converted into a mobile emergency command post.

TEXAS — FBI agents Sergio Barrio, 38, and Samantha Mikeska, 38, were hospitalized in critical condition after they were ambushed during a sting operation and severely kicked and beaten. The agents, who were investigating thefts of interstate shipments from railroads, had been tipped to a theft and were on a train that was jumped by suspects. Gangs from Mexico have been robbing trains near the Texas-Mexico border for years.

Police in San Antonio have withdrawn their leave-time donations to union officials, who rely on the pool of hours to conduct union business. Although union leaders said that the time lost will not affect their work, they do fear that the withdrawals point to an internal rift. The move comes at a time when city officials have suggested a 3-percent pay raise for officers, falling short of the union's request for an estimated 8-percent raise or a universal monthly raise of \$300.

For more than a year, Dallas police Senior Cpl. Jess Lucio has been collecting artifacts for a planned 4,400-square-foot museum on the history of the Dallas police, but officials say they don't yet have the projected \$1.3 million needed to complete the museum at the city's new police headquarters. Lucio's prize finds include a Thompson submachine gun used by Capt. Will Fritz, who led the investigation into the Kennedy assassination. Also, Det. Jim Leavelle has agreed to lend the museum the famed light-colored suit that he wore while handcuffed to Lee Harvey Oswald when Jack Ruby shot him. The new \$59-million headquarters complex is due to open in March.

UTAH — The state supreme court is considering whether the courts should

have access to rape counseling records, which some defense attorneys say may contain evidence of a defendant's innocence. Prosecutors and victims' rights advocates, however, say the records should remain confidential, as disclosure could inhibit victims from reporting crimes.

The state Department of Corrections is almost done collecting DNA samples from its 5,400 inmates, in keeping with a new state law that requires DNA be taken from all convicted felons and entered into a national database. However, a shortage of test kits may cause some delay in the collection.



Far West

CALIFORNIA — The Los Angeles Police Department's civilian watchdog, Inspector General Jeffrey Eglash, told the police commission that most of the use-of-force reports filed by Los Angeles police officers from Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2001, were either wrong, late or incomplete. Of the 252 reports that Eglash reviewed, only two met all the department requirements. He added, however, that he believes things have improved since then and that the department has taken steps to address deficiencies.

Modesto police Sgt. Steve May, who has been in a coma since he was in a car crash while on duty on July 29, may be responding subtly to a police scanner that was hooked up in his hospital room. Sgt. Ron Cloward had the idea in hopes that May might respond to something familiar. At the top of each hour, a dispatcher hails "A-21... A-21" — May's call sign. May's eyes move behind closed lids when the calls come through, and in one instance, a nurse said that May's blood pressure shot up in response to a radio call that a sheriff's deputy had been in an accident. His vital signs did not return to normal until the dispatcher said no further assistance was needed.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has agreed to set aside \$9.5 million to cover scandal-related "trial court operations" associated with the Los Angeles Police Department's Rampart scandal, including indigent defense representation, prosecutor's investigative costs and other expenses.

According to the annual district attorney's report, gang membership in Orange County has fallen to its lowest level in nine years. In 2001, there were 357 gangs in the county with a total of 17,306 members, but one prosecutor said many of those are now in prison.

Fresno Mayor Alan Autry and Police Chief Jerry Dyer are seeking public support for hiring an independent auditor to investigate police shootings. Similar discussions last year led to the formation of a committee that studied police use of deadly force. A report from that group said that there should be no changes to the "standing orders on use of force," but that deadly force could be minimized if officers have more access to nonlethal weapons and are provided with adequate training.

Since 1989, there have been 102 officer-involved shootings in Fresno, 38 of them fatal and most of them in minority neighborhoods.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved an expansion of its year-old syringe replacement program into Santa Paula, where there are an estimated 905 to 1,460 residents infected with HIV. Santa Paula Police Chief Bob Gonzales said that while he was philosophically opposed to needle-exchange programs, he supported the effort as a way of limiting the spread of diseases from dirty needles.

Prosecutors in Santa Clara county say they are taking a closer look at procedures after three men were charged with sex crimes this year and then later cleared by DNA or other lab tests. District Attorney George Kennedy said that one change being considered is whether prosecutors should be assigned to major cases soon after they occur.

HAWAII — A group called Hawaii Citizens for the Separation of State and Church is threatening legal action if the Honolulu Police Department does not abandon the oath used to swear in new officers, because it contains the phrase "so help me God." Earlier this month, the department removed a biblical passage from its Web site after the group complained.

IDAHO — Bonneville County will be upgrading its 911 system to include the capability for officials to call an entire community in an emergency. The reverse-911 system will be able to make up to 2,000 calls per minute. Currently, alerts are done by an emergency siren and door-to-door contacts.

OREGON — Douglas County Deputy Sheriff Morris Taylor, 38, was shot and killed on Sept. 14 while responding to a disturbance call at a motel. As Taylor and his backup approached a man they were told was armed, the man produced a rifle and a shootout ensued in which Taylor and the unidentified assailant were killed.

State Police officials are warning of an increase in traffic accidents and fatalities after 131 officers and 29 other staff were given layoff notices this month to help close a \$482-million gap in the state budget. The layoffs, which represent a 17-percent cut in personnel, were based on seniority.

WASHINGTON — Aaron Williams, 22, was sentenced Sept. 17 to more than nine years in prison for shooting at Bremerton Police Officer Mike Davis after killing Davis's K-9 partner, Buddy. Kitsap County Superior Court Judge Anna Laurie was criticized by police for acquitting Williams of attempted murder and first-degree assault and instead convicting him of second-degree assault and Buddy's killing.

In early September, Aberdeen police discovered a bunker in the woods where an AWOL soldier lived for three months with ammunition, weaponry manuals and night-vision goggles. Authorities say that Mikhail Sharov, 25, broke no laws other than trespassing, for which he was sentenced to 45 days in jail. The army was notified but Sharov told police that he was not going back to Fort Bragg, where he was posted with the 82nd Airborne.

People & Places

Still first

In the late 1970s, she paved the way for other women to become patrol officers in Seabrook, Texas. Now **Nona Holomon** has been tapped as the city's first female police chief.

Holomon, 53, was sworn in on Sept. 3 by Judge **Joe Pirtle**, who as mayor in 1978 had first appointed Holomon to the force. "I got a lot of criticism before it happened, and none since," he told *The Houston Chronicle*.

Starting her career as a dispatcher, Holomon was the first woman to be sent through the police academy and the first to request patrol duty. But the Seabrook department did not allow women to serve in that capacity then, so Holomon left for a year to work at the University of Houston-Clear Lake, before coming back as a patrol officer under Chief **Bill Kerber**.

It was Kerber, long-time head of the 34-member department, who promoted Holomon to operations lieutenant. She has served as acting chief since he resigned Aug. 1 to become city administrator in Kemah.

According to Seabrook City Manager **Bo McDaniel**, officials decided that it was in the best interests of the city that a department insider be selected as chief. Holomon was the only one from the ranks to apply.

"I hope the City Council and the public will join me in supporting Nona in her new role as the chief of police," said McDaniel, who called her the best person to carry out that responsibility.

Said Holomon: "We're a happy department. We've got a lot of things to go through in the next few months, but we're really up to that challenge."

Starting over

The city of Durham, N.C., is no closer to finding a chief than it was last month, after an embarrassing series of mishaps involving poorly conducted background checks led to the elimination of two of the three top contenders.

Interim Chief **Steve Chalmers**, who was widely believed to have a lock on the post, was knocked out of the running when *The Oldani Group*, the Bellevue, Wash.-based firm hired to conduct the search, said he lied about previous arrests and convictions. Chalmers was charged with domestic abuse 20 years ago by his former wife. The charges were later dropped. He claimed that he had misunderstood and thought he only needed to reveal past convictions.

In the case of the other candidate eliminated from the search, **Gregory Watkins**, two of his ex-wives had filed charges of abuse against him and had sought orders of protection 10 years ago. Watkins, a retired deputy police chief from Kansas City, Mo., had been offered the job by City Manager **Marcia Conner** after Chalmers's name had been removed. Watkins resigned after the allegations were revealed by *The (Durham) Herald-Record*.

The allegations were uncovered by the local paper, not by the search firm. As a result, part of the company's \$25,000 fee was refunded to the city.

William Carcara, the third candidate and chief of the Jefferson County, Ky., Police Department, withdrew after saying he had been pressured by Conner to accept the position immediately. Carcara had also been a candidate for chief of Sarasota, Fla.

Last month, Conner reopened the search, defying the majority of City Council members who were in favor of giving the job permanently to Chalmers.

"Of course I'm disappointed in the whole process," said Councilwoman **Cora Cole-Fadden**. Cole-Fadden had been one of four members on the seven-member council to support Chalmers. While Conner took full responsibility for the botched search, Cole-Fadden said she will be held accountable only for her choice of police leader and for the police department. "I think that's where the accountability will be," she told *The Herald-Sun*.

Heavy lifting

Anyone who believes that those over the age of 60 can't put on muscle



had better hope not to run into **Traverse City, Mich., Police Chief Ralph Soffredine** (left).

"That's just not true," said the 65-year-old chief, who won his age class in

the U.S.A. Powerlifting Bench Press Nationals in Bedford Heights, Ohio in late August. Soffredine, who is due to retire in 2003, lifted 365 pounds — just 20 pounds short of the record for 65- to 70-year-olds.

In December, he hopes to set a national record when he competes at a state weightlifting championship. He's also hoping to earn an invitation to participate in the International Powerlifting Competition in Prague next year.

Soffredine, who took up lifting after finishing college at Central Michigan University, was on a 15-year hiatus from the sport when his son-in-law urged him back into competing. In fact, Soffredine said he lifts more now than he did while in his 30s.

Strictly personal

Coverage — in both the law-enforcement sense and the clothing sense — was at issue last month in the small town of Powers, Drexel, when its police chief's scantily-clad photo showed up on an Internet dating service's Web site.

Rhett Davis, 45, is a controversial figure. The town's only full-time officer, he has been given kudos for the RIDER program, which pairs kids from broken homes with horses, but others complain that he has not done a sufficient job of protecting the 700-resident town. So when a picture of Davis wearing only sunglasses, boots and a cowboy hat covering a place other than the top of his head appeared on the Web site, it all hit the fan.

The chief, who described himself in the ad posted on *americansingles.com*

Talking a blue streak

Houston chief faces perjury rap for vulgar language

While police are no strangers to blue language, the suspension this month of Houston Police Chief **C.O. Bradford** over an incident involving vulgarity allegedly directed toward a subordinate may give officers pause before using profanity with impunity.

Bradford stepped down temporarily on Sept. 6 after a Harris County grand jury indicted him for lying under oath about whether he called Assistant Chief **A.J. Breshears** a foul name. If convicted of the third-degree felony, the chief faces a sentence of up to 10 years in prison and a fine.

Hours after the indictment, **Timothy Oettmeier**, the city's inspector general and an assistant chief, was named acting chief.

"I haven't done anything to perjure myself," Bradford told *The Houston Chronicle*. "There's no motive for me to go under oath and perjure myself..."

How the chief found himself in this predicament is a convoluted tale that began in August 2001 when **Capt. Mark Aguirre**, commander of the South Central patrol station, was given a letter of reprimand for using profanity during a mandatory meeting of 30 ranking officers.

Aguirre, a 23-year veteran with a no-nonsense attitude and a reputation for using four-letter words to punctuate his motivational messages to the troops, was recorded saying that he was going to "grind [them] into dog patties

and stomp them into pancakes" if they did not get better results from their patrol teams. Failure, he allegedly said, would result in him "chop[ping] their heads off, starting at the anus."

While parts of the tape were inaudible, the agency's Internal Affairs Division collected 15 statements from police saying that Aguirre used profanity. A disciplinary committee recommended a five-day suspension, but Bradford reduced that punishment to a written reprimand issued on Nov. 14, 2001.

Aguirre appealed the reprimand and was granted a hearing before the Civil Service Commission. His attorney, calling Bradford as a witness, asked the chief if he had ever used foul language in front of subordinates. When the chief denied it under oath, Aguirre's lawyer called on Breshears.

Breshears, the executive assistant chief, had been part of a group of command staff officers summoned to Bradford's office on Nov. 3, 2000, for a dressing down over a lapse in the security detail assigned to Mayor **Lee P. Brown** and his family. At one point, Breshears testified, Bradford called him a "mother- - - -."

"I didn't consider it terribly profane when he called me that," Breshears testified, "not to say I wasn't hurt by the words. I wouldn't tell you that. But I didn't jump up and file a complaint against the chief because he said that."

The contradiction prompted Aguirre to file a perjury complaint

against Bradford with the district attorney's office. What has puzzled prosecutors, however, is why Bradford did not simply admit to having used the term when he had admitted to using profanity outside of the office. It is unlikely that Bradford will challenge Breshears's account, however, said defense attorney **Rusty Hardin**.

In the meantime, Aguirre has been suspended with pay for a authorizing mass arrests outside of a 24-hour Kmart on Aug. 18. The midnight raid was meant to target drag racing, teenage vandalism and drinking. According to Aguirre's attorney, **Terry W. Yates**, seven fatalities in recent months have been attributed to drag racing. Some 278 people were arrested, many of whom claimed to be innocent bystanders.

Bradford claimed he had not seen or heard of any plans for the raid, and was out of town when the operation occurred. Aguirre contends that Bradford did know there would be mass arrests because he had been advised in a memo.

City officials have dropped charges against all of those arrested. The raid has generated the largest internal-affairs investigation in the department's history, costing about \$55,000 in overtime thus far and involving the interviews of hundreds of people. Statements have been taken from 89 officers and 203 civilians as part of the probe, said Oettmeier.

as a single cowboy who liked poetry, dancing and tropical getaways, said the cowboy hat was covering up a bikini-style swimsuit. Of the three photos he selected, he told *The Oregonian* newspaper, that one showed his physique.

The ad was only supposed to be seen by women seeking males in the 45-year-old age category and was "nobody's business," said Davis. But within days of it being posted, someone pinned a copy of it to the town's bulletin board, and others handed it out to friends and neighbors. The photo was also e-mailed all over town. Davis quickly pulled it from the Web site. It has been so embarrassing, he said, that he was considering leaving town.

Powers Mayor **Jean LeCuyer** said she was disappointed in the chief's choice of photos, but it was his personal business and did not affect his job.

New tricks

You might not be able to teach them to an old dog, but apparently, it was Washington County, Drexel, acting Sheriff **Rob Gordon**'s demonstrated ability "to learn new tricks" that won him the post permanently in September.

Gordon, 46, was unanimously voted in by the county's Board of Commissioners this month after a debate that took just 13 minutes.

One of former sheriff **Jim**

Spinden's two commanders and his long-time political ally, Gordon had been widely considered the favorite for the post. Spinden announced in July that he would be retiring after having served as sheriff for a decade. He appointed Gordon his acting replacement and endorsed him for the \$110,000-a-year job.

Also in the running had been Spinden's other commander, Chief Deputy **Sherre Calouri**, sheriff's Det. **Michael G. Pond**, and Tualatin Police Chief **Steve Winegar**. Before becoming a chief, Winegar had been a lieutenant with the sheriff's department.

Gordon was praised by County Commissioner **Dick Schouten** as having "demonstrated the ability to learn new tricks" and for having a "very rounded and full" background. "This wasn't easy," he told *The Oregonian*.

A 23-year veteran of the sheriff's department, Gordon also earned endorsements from the agency's four commanders, the union representing rank-and-file deputies, and the head of the Oregon Jail Managers Association. Gordon joined the department after serving four years in the Marines. From 1996 until this year, he ran the jail, and had commanded the patrol division beginning in 1993. In June, he was promoted to chief deputy.

All of the other candidates had issues that would have prevented them from serving effectively as sheriff. In Calouri's case, she was not certified in the state as a police officer. If appointed, Calouri would have had a year to complete Oregon's 10-week basic police

academy training.

Pond, who served the longest of any of the finalists — 27 years — lacked formal management experience. And Winegar ran up against the agency's nepotism policy. His brother-in-law, **Alan Cattron**, a sheriff's lieutenant, manages the detective division and interagency tactical negotiations.

Chief of chiefs

Law enforcement veteran **Harold L. Hurtt**, chief of the Phoenix Police Department, was elected president of the Major City Chiefs Association in August.

Hurtt has led the Phoenix force since 1998, although he has been a member of the department for 25 years. Prior to his appointment as Phoenix's chief, he led the Dxnard, Calif., Police Department for six years. He holds a master's degree in organizational management from the University of Phoenix.

"Harold Hurtt is a tremendous law enforcement executive," **Edward J. Tulley**, the association's former executive director, told *Law Enforcement News*. "Harold himself is very well respected by the 59 other chiefs in the organization. Any time those people elect you, it's a very solid endorsement of your accomplishment, intelligence, your ability to lead... They don't elect fools to that position."

Self-diagnosis tool may help avoid DWIs

A strip of paper that roughly gauges the user's intoxication level is a tool that can help people make the right decision about drinking and driving, according to a number of law enforcement agencies around the nation that have embraced the Guardian Angel Personal Alcohol Test.

Created by a San Francisco-based firm, the self-administered test strips are being distributed by state highway patrols in Wyoming and Colorado, and by several municipal agencies, including the North Miami Beach, Fla., Police Department, and the Atherton and Santa Clara police departments in California.

The padded strips work by assessing the alcohol content in saliva and are designed to show a maximum blood-alcohol content of .08, the legal threshold for drunken driving in most states. After being placed on the tongue for 10 seconds, the strips turn color. Coffee brown means someone who is too drunk to drive; a reddish brown or tan color indicates that while a person may not be legally drunk, there is a risk of being cited for driving under the influence. The colors can be matched against a color chart.

"By providing these Guardian Strips to [citizens], it puts the burden in their

hands to make the choice," said Sgt. Troy McLees, a safety education sergeant for the Wyoming Highway Patrol.

The patrol distributes them over the holiday season, attached to a card that outlines the consequences of being charged with a DUI in Wyoming. All of the patrol's divisions keep Guardian Angel strips on hand to give to the general public, he told Law Enforcement News. They are also available at convenience stores and gas stations for approximately \$2 each.

"Right there on the back of our card it tells you that any type of alcohol can

impair your driving," said McLees. "If they just read the card, it doesn't matter what [the strip] says, low, medium or high, since it's registering on this little strip, they shouldn't be driving at all. That's the message we're getting out."

In California, where 54 people were killed over the Labor Day weekend last year, police in the Bay Area recently cracked down on drunken drivers, flooding the roadways with thousands of officers and setting up checkpoints in 19 locations throughout the region.

Atherton police bought 2,000 Guardian Angel kits in June, and gave away 200 by the end of August.

"We thought we'd help catch it at the other end," Officer Dave Metzger told The San Francisco Chronicle.

The strips are routinely given away at community events by Santa Clara police, and the Colorado State Patrol had said it would hand out the kits during the holiday weekend at checkpoints.

"We're hoping we will give people an additional tool that will help make the decision not to drive after drinking," state patrol Capt. Jim Wolfenbarger told The Associated Press.

At the North Miami Beach Police Department, patrol officers carry Guardian Angel kits in their cars so they distribute them under a variety of circumstances, said Officer Tom Carney, supervisor of the department's community safety unit.

"If they make a traffic stop and feel, 'Hey, this is a group of young people maybe going to a party,' or you're driving through a shopping center parking lot and you got someone coming out of a grocery store or a liquor store with a case of beer, you may want to stop them and talk to them," he told LEN.

The department has tested the strips

and found them to be fairly accurate, said Carney. They have also been given positive reviews by some of the local bar and lounge managers, and their patrons.

"Very common is, 'Wow, I didn't think I was that drunk,'" he said. "They said they would use it if it was offered to them."

Not everyone is a fan of the Guardian Angel strips, however. Mothers Against Drunk Driving has not taken a position on the product, but MADD president Wendy Hamilton told The AP that it might give someone the impression they could get behind the wheel as long as the strip shows a blood alcohol level below the legal limit.

The Wisconsin State Police has voiced similar concerns and is not distributing kits. While saliva test strips may be accurate when used strictly as directed, there is no quality control mechanism for the Guardian Angel product, the agency said.

"Uncertainty exists as to whether users will follow package instructions to the letter while under the influence of alcohol," an agency spokesman said. "We would not recommend basing a decision to drive on results of these tests."

But Carney pointed out that police hand out many products in the hopes that they will be used correctly by citizens, with no guarantees. "We give out child safety seats to the public, whether they use them properly or not, I don't know," he said. "We give out gun locks free to the public. If they don't use them or use them improperly... We feel the benefits outweigh the potential risks. Reaching the public, trying to educate them is better than any potential risk, which I think is really slim."

An ounce of prevention:

Making diabetics harder to Miss.

With an estimated 322,000 people in the state who suffer from diabetes, a disease whose symptoms can often mimic those of alcohol or drug intoxication, Mississippi legislators have authorized the creation of a specially marked license plate that would alert police to potentially ailing motorists.

The new tag, which was designed by the Mississippi State Tax Commission and unveiled on Aug. 29, just might save a driver's life in a crisis, said Mary Fortune, vice president of the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi.

Too little sugar in the blood can cause a diabetic to go into insulin shock, which can present itself as confusion, sometimes hostile or aggressive behavior, and paleness with sweating and a rapid shallow

pulse. The motorist may also faint.

The foundation believes that of those Mississippians who suffer from the disease, 82,000 do not even realize they are diabetic.

"If you have this tag on your car, this gives an officer a heads up if he happens to come into contact with you and you may be having problems with your diabetes," Hinds County Sheriff Malcolm McMillin said in an interview with Law Enforcement News. "It would make him think twice about something he wouldn't ordinarily think about."

McMillin should know. He is a Type 2, or non-insulin dependent, diabetic. Not only has he stopped motorists who were having a crisis, but he has had an episode himself. "I had hypoglycemia — a rapid loss of blood sugar — to where I was sweating profusely and just not

myself, out of sorts, and displaying behaviors commonly associated with people under the influence," he told LEN.

Unlike vanity plates, there will be no extra charge for the diabetes tags, he noted. Applications can be made through a resident's county tax collector, and should include a certification from a licensed doctor that the applicant is a diabetic.

McMillin said he planned to use the plate on his official vehicle and would urge other officers in his department who are diabetic to do the same.

"The other side of this is that it will make people more aware of diabetes and hopefully some folks who are ashamed of it will understand there are a lot of folks out there and that's it's nothing to be embarrassed about," he said.

Trouble in the air? Standards seen falling as attrition strafes sky marshal program

The federal air marshal program, which drew officers in droves from federal, state and local agencies after Sept. 11, is apparently losing its recruits at a similar rate, according to a report in USA Today that depicted a program in alarming disarray.

Although the head of the air marshal program, Tom Quinn, and officials with the Transportation Security Administration have downplayed the number of resignations in recent months, putting the figure at fewer than 80, documents obtained by USA Today in August showed at least 250 officers leaving the agency. In one e-mail cited by USA Today, dated July 17, the program's human resources office advised managers of the need to appoint an employee relation assistant, "given the volume of resignations we have been receiving."

Chief among the problems, the newspaper said, has been a dilution of hiring and training standards in order to bring as many officers on board as possible. Prior to 9/11, fewer than 50 marshals flew, and only on international flights; after the attacks, that figure rose to what is believed to be 6,000. The exact number is classified.

One of the acceptance criteria that was jettisoned by the elite program, sources told USA Today, was a demanding marksmanship course, which simulates conditions a marshal might

face aboard a jetliner. It was cut because too high a number of applicants failed, a manager and two other sources within the TSA told the newspaper.

Moreover, the sources said, many new hires were put on planes with guns and badges before extensive background checks could be completed. According to Quinn, some marshals were given waivers while more thorough investigations were conducted. "Would I prefer it another way?" he asked. "Certainly."

New hires found themselves working 12- to 16-hour days, or calling in sick to get a break from flight schedules they contend are making them ill, said the newspaper. Although marshals were told during training that developing a rapport with their partners was crucial, schedules reviewed by USA Today showed that many were assigned a different partner each day. And while some were flying for more than 10 hours a day, marshals in some offices were not scheduled to work for weeks

at a time.

"In May, for 3½ weeks, they forgot about me," one said. "And not just me. There had to be 15 guys in the office they forgot about. We sat in the office watching kung fu movies." Quinn emphatically rejected that claim as "totally erroneous."

When marshals tried to call the scheduling center in Atlantic City, N.J., one said they were told by schedulers not to worry, "you're getting paid."

A typical marshal earns approximately \$52,000 a year. Many officers were lured away from agencies with the promise of a better salary and benefits, plus a four-day work week — three days of flying and one day of training. Yet a memo obtained by USA Today revealed that the air marshal program has had to struggle just to provide ammunition for training.

"We are getting bullets shortly," the memo said. "You can shoot on your own time and buy bullets with your own money however."

Another complaint cited by USA Today focused on the implementation of a dress code for those in the undercover program. Air marshals fear that standardized dress will give them away to terrorists.

Said one manager involved in the hiring process: "A lot of people were drawn to this agency because it was a fresh agency. Now it's spoiled to the

point that it's rotten. They tell us to bear with it, that it's growing pains. It's not growing pains. It's a disease."

The rapid growth of the air marshal program has also proved to be a dilemma for police departments which have been hemorrhaging personnel.

One of the hardest hit has been the Secret Service's uniformed division, which stood to lose 130 of its 1,200 officers to the air marshal program as of June. In Bethesda, Md., the National Institutes of Health police department has lost 13 of its 50-member force, and 15 others are seeking jobs elsewhere, a representative of its police union told The Washington Post.

"It's just never been seen at that level," said Jason Abend, a former Secret Service recruiter who now operates LawEnforcementJobs.com based in Arlington, Va. "That level of pay, that level of benefits nationwide. If somebody's considering going federal, they're not going to stay" in municipal law enforcement, he told The Post.

This has forced some departments to try to jazz up their image. The U.S. Park Police, for example, talks to recruits about flying a helicopter over the nation's capital, or patrolling the Mall on horseback.

"When you start marketing that, you can stir patriotism in 21-year-olds to 34-year-olds in a way that other agencies can't," said Chief Teresa C. Chambers.

Law Enforcement News

Founded 1975.

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, Gerald W. Lynch, President

Marie Simonetti Rosen
Publisher

Peter C. Dodenhoff
Editor/Associate Publisher

Jennifer Nislow
Associate Editor

Nekeela Trechier De-Haarte
Subscriptions

Nancy Egan
Contributing Writer

Correspondents: Walt Francis, Tom Gitchoff, T.L. Tyler, Ron Van Raalte.

Law Enforcement News is © 2002 and published twice monthly (once monthly during July and August) by LEN Inc. and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 555 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019. Telephone: (212) 237-8442. Fax: (212) 237-8486. E-mail: len@jay.cuny.edu. Subscription rates: \$28 per year (22 issues). Advertising rates available upon request.

Requests for permission to reprint any portion of Law Enforcement News in any form should be addressed to Marie Simonetti Rosen, Publisher. ISSN 0364-1724. Law Enforcement News is available in microform from University Microfilms Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Dept. PR, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

PD takes a bite out of community policing

When you're down by a dozen police officers with little hope of quick replacement in sight, something's got to give, and that something in Portland, Maine, has been the agency's cherished community policing program.

While not eliminating it entirely, Police Chief Michael Chitwood made significant cutbacks in the unit this month. Out of 10 community policing officers, the 160-member department was forced to pull four in order to maintain minimum coverage on the street. Now, instead of two officers and a coordinator in each of the unit's five sites, only one of the locations will maintain that full complement.

"My line squads, which handles about 70,000 calls for service a year, were reduced from a high of about 16 officers to a low of about 12 officers," Chitwood said in an interview with Law Enforcement News. "We started to see some problematic areas in response time, in the quality of service we were offering. We had to start paying exorbitant amounts of overtime."

In addition to losing officers to retirements, and to the recruiting efforts

of other agencies, the Portland department has found it difficult to draw enough applicants whose qualifications will see them through the employment process. Not only has the number of people taking the entrance exam fallen to less than half of what it was five years ago, noted Chitwood, but nearly half of those who do pass the exam then flunk the agency's physical fitness component. "This last time out, 90 people took the test, 70 people passed the test," and 35 failed the physical, he said.

"That's amazing to me, when you have 24- and 25-year-olds who can't run, can't do push-ups," said Chitwood. "This is not a triathlete-type of physical."

Virtually all of the others get scratched after the background check, the polygraph or the psychological exam. Out of 70 who passed the entrance exam, the department was only able to hire three of the applicants, he said. And even then, it will take about a year before they are put on patrol.

With all of these adverse factors, the agency initiated a major reorganization, promoted a new captain and started to

focus on the patrol division, aiming to strengthen its front line units. And it started to look at areas where it was fat, said Chitwood.

The department adopted the community policing philosophy in 1994, starting with one center in the city's most crime-infested neighborhood. As the success of the program grew, five centers were opened in different areas of Portland. Until recently, each had a two officers and a civilian coordinator. At one center, Chitwood said, the department acts as a broker for about 66 different social service agencies.

"Our partnership with the community has been broad," he said.

The popularity of the program now has the city's community and political leaders worried over the program's depletion. But the focus of the department, said Chitwood, has to be on all of Portland, not just where the centers are located.

Measures have been taken to improve the hiring situation, he said. For example, entrance exams can be given once a month now, instead of once a year. And the department can hire lateral transfers at salaries similar to what the applicant was earning after as much as five years on the job.

"We're now trying to incorporate community policing into the entire de-

partment," said Chitwood. We've looked at other departments across the country and tried to develop the philosophy because I really believe it works. It really, really makes a big difference in how we police, but I think we have to work on expanding it."

To that end, Chitwood expects the centers' coordinators to participate in more ride-alongs with line officers who work in their area.

"The coordinators, who are probably the catalysts for everything that happens, have to be able to expand their ability to reach out to more officers and maintain that philosophy of community policing," he said.

This police car is brought to you by (your name here)

There's a saying that when the going gets tough, the tough go shopping. In Springfield, Fla., when the city's budget got tight, municipal and police officials went shopping for a corporate sponsor who would buy it police cars in exchange for advertising on the vehicles.

"If we had plenty of money, I probably wouldn't even look at it," said Police Chief Sam Slay. "With budget shortfalls and the need to add personnel, I kind of had to set my preferences aside."

In August, city commissioners voted 4-0 to accept a deal offered by Government Acquisitions, a North Carolina firm that hopes to provide the department with 15 new cruisers over the next three years. The city will pay \$1 for each of the cars, saving the city an estimated \$500,000 over the three years, and giving Slay a chance to hire more officers.

"I need five new officers today that I don't have in the budget," the chief told Law Enforcement News. "This

would allow me to put several of those on right away."

The advertisements on the cars, which look identical to stock race cars except for their light bars, would be toned down, said Ken Allison, a partner in the company. Slay said he was also given permission to negotiate locally to find hometown sponsors. The first vehicle was promised within the next 12 months, the rest will follow, he said.

"We could never afford 15 cars at one time," said Slay. "If we had to buy 15 cars with everything they need all at once, it would be \$675,000. That's \$45,000 a car."

Garry Gernandt, an Omaha, Neb., city councilman who heard about Springfield's contract, has asked his city's legal department to investigate the possibility of a similar arrangement in Omaha.

More than a third of the police department's fleet has in excess of 150,000 miles on the odometer. When it takes anywhere from \$25,000 to

\$30,000 to completely equip a car — minus the officer — accepting corporate advertising sounds like a viable plan, he told LEN.

"I thought it was worth exploring," said Gernandt. "I've got positive feedback from the police department and the police union. They thought it was definitely worth looking into as long as it's done tastefully."

There has been criticism, however. Gernandt said he did not agree with those who contend that having logos on cruisers would diminish the image of police — particularly in light of the city's financial constraints.

"It's incumbent upon an elected official to look at all areas of generating revenue or saving money," he said. "This idea is worth checking out, and that's what I'm doing."

Gernandt said he is conferring with officials in Springfield to see how they got started with the project. If it can save a city of that size half a million dollars, he said, then it could potentially save Omaha three times that amount.

DNA tests may be free for the taking, but few are taking

In the nearly three years since San Diego County, Calif., began offering free DNA testing to its jail inmates, and, subsequently, to defendants under a state statute, it has had only a handful of takers — a situation that seems to be repeated around the nation.

San Diego County was the first jurisdiction to offer some prisoners free testing back in 2000, when DNA technology seemed poised to play an increasing role in determining the fairness of convictions. But out of 561 felony convictions that occurred prior to 1992, prosecutors there found only three cases in which guilt or innocence might have been shown through a DNA test.

"[In] the first case, there was no biological evidence, in the second case, we offered testing but the inmate said no, he didn't want to participate, and in the final case, we obtained results, but they only matched the victim so they were not probative," said Deputy District Attorney George Clarke.

In the two years that a state statute has been in place to allow defendants to request testing, there have only been three motions, he told Law Enforcement News.

"What we find is that identity is the issue in only a very small percentage of our cases, about 20 percent," said Clarke. "In 80 percent of cases, the inmate admits to being the person, so identity is not going to do him any good."

A similar initiative in New Jersey was halted after fewer than a dozen felons applied. In Broward County, Fla., only three of 29 death-row inmates accepted offers to be tested.

Officials cite several possible reasons why prisoners do not want to participate in these programs. There is the fear that obtaining a pardon or parole would be more difficult should a DNA

match establish their guilt, as well as concerns by inmates that they may be linked to other crimes. In those cases where wrongful conviction is involved, most appeals are already being pursued by defense attorneys who specialize in DNA-based exonerations.

While not minimizing the number of truly innocent individuals who had been incarcerated until cleared through such programs as the Innocence Project, which relies on DNA testing, that group of 100 or so is a tiny fraction of all serious criminal cases, said Clarke.

"We're not taking people kicking and screaming, 'I'm not the person,'" he said. "There aren't too many of those."

Put more bulk in your reading diet:

Low Enforcement News is available for bulk distribution to professional conferences, training groups and other gatherings. For more information on how you can help improve the reading diet of your colleagues, contact the Circulation Department at (212) 237-8442.

Once again, UCR & BJS crime survey agree to disagree

Is the honeymoon over, or not?

Depending on which study one reads, crime either began a slow upward reversal in 2001, or it fell to its lowest level in nearly 30 years.

The disparity began to emerge in July, when the FBI's preliminary Uniform Crime Reports for 2001 found that overall crime had inched up by 2 percent over the amount reported the previous year. On Sept. 9, the Bureau of Justice Statistics came out with its latest National Crime Victimization Survey, which reported a 10-percent decline in violent crime, and a 6-percent drop in property crime. The figures for last year are the lowest recorded since the agency began keeping track in 1973.

According to the UCR, the volume of violent offense grew by 0.6 percent, with murders increasing by 3 percent, and robberies by 3.9 percent. The only category of violent crime to fall last year was aggravated assault, which was down by 1.6 percent [see LEN, July/August 2002].

The NCVS meanwhile, found that the 24.2 million victimizations in 2001 represented a sharp decrease from the previous year's total of 25.9 million, and continued a downward trend that began in 1994.

This would not be the first time that the two surveys disagreed, said Andrew Karmen, a sociologist at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

"There are a number of explanations, none of them satisfactory," he told Law Enforcement News.

One cause could be the margin of error present in any statistical study. Another possibility, said Karmen, is underreported crime — a problem that the crime survey was originally created to address, since the UCR only includes crimes reported to law enforcement agencies.

"Criminologists always felt that the UCR was an undercount, and the NCVS verified that," he said. "Police only hear about half the offenses that are committed."

There may also be problems with the definitions used by the two tallies, he said, noting that while the UCR includes commercial burglaries, the NCVS only counts personal and residential thefts.

Among the crime survey's key findings were that more than half, or 55 percent, of the 3 million violent crimes involving male victims were perpetrated by a stranger. Thirty-seven percent were committed by a friend or acquaintance, and just 3 percent were committed by an intimate partner.

Women, in contrast, were victimized by an intimate partner in 20 percent of the more than 2.7 million violent crimes against females. Friends or acquaintances were the perpetrators in 37 percent of the cases, while strangers represented 32 percent of the offenders and relatives 9 percent.

Female victims, particularly African Americans, also reported their crimes to police more often than did men in 2001. Fifty-three percent of women reported violent crimes to law enforcement last year, compared with 46 percent of men. For black females, the figure was 58 percent, compared to white females' 53 percent.

The survey found that rapes and sexual assaults fell by 56 percent last year. Nearly half of rapes were committed by a friend or acquaintance of the female victim.

Regionally, residents of the Northeast were victimized by crime at a significantly lower rate last year than were those in the West, with 123.9 victimizations per 1,000 households as compared to 216.4 per 1,000 households. Midwesterners and Southerners were victimized at rates of 172.3 per 1,000 households and 157.5 per 1,000 households, respectively.

[The full BJS report, "Criminal Victimization 2001: Changes 2000-2001 with Trends 1993-2001," can be viewed on the agency's Web site, <www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cv01.htm>.]

Wilmington PD's anti-crime pix under fire

Civil libertarians have taken heated issue with the Wilmington, Del., Police Department's practice of pointing and shooting — albeit with digital cameras — at drug suspects during stop-and-frisks, claiming the anti-crime strategy crosses constitutional boundaries.

The photo policy was implemented in June with the creation of two new units the department calls "jump-out squads." With up to 20 officers in each, the squads descend on street corners, bursting from marked and unmarked cars to make quick arrests of street-level dealers. Squad members generally line the people on the corner against and frisk them for weapons.

In the past few months, photos of more than 100 people, none of whom have been arrested for any crimes, have been taken. The pictures, along with the subjects' names and addresses, will be used to create a database of potential suspects to use in the investigation of future crimes, according to Police Chief Michael Szczerba.

It is unlikely that any innocent bystander will be swept up in an action by the jump-out squad, he said. Over the past three months or so, police have detained 588 people, and of those, 471 have been arrested. The remaining 117 had their photographs taken just the same. According to city officials, 84

had at least three felony convictions.

"If you come into our city to take in a ball game or dine at a restaurant or go to a theater, you likely won't know about these corner patrols," Szczerba told USA Today. "But if you come to sell drugs or just be a general nuisance, you're going to see us."

Like such cities as Tampa, Los Angeles and Virginia Beach and at least a dozen others, Wilmington has embraced surveillance technology over the past year. The approach is said to have contributed to an 8-percent drop this year in homicides, burglaries, robberies, rapes and assaults, as compared with 2001, noted Szczerba and Mayor

James Baker. Shootings, however, rose 40 percent during the first six months of the year.

In addition to the police department's photo policy, Wilmington has more than 100 surveillance cameras scanning its downtown streets. While most were installed by private businesses and corporations in April 2001, they are linked to a 13-camera network on public land that can send live video feeds to police dispatchers. The cameras are monitored 16 hours a day by a private security firm.

While there have been no legal challenges as yet to the photographing of suspects, civil libertarians, defense attorneys and some city leaders believe the policy to be unconstitutional, as well as a mistake on the part of officials.

"The 'jump out' squads are the tactic of rounding up the usual suspects," said Barry Steinhardt, director of the technology and liberty program for the American Civil Liberties Union in New York City. "They are stopping, searching and putting into a database photographs of people whose only crime is being in the wrong place at the wrong

time. It's bad law enforcement and it's bad for civil liberties."

Although U.S. courts have held that people have no expectation of privacy in public places and may be photographed without their knowledge, the creation of digital-photo databases could bring a new round of legal challenges, Steinhardt told USA Today.

City Councilman Theo K. Gregory, who is a public defender, called the department's strategy morally wrong.

"We should enforce the existing laws, but not violate them, to catch the bad guy," he said. "We've become the bad guys, and that's not right."

Mayor Baker, however, called criticism of the policy "sinine and intellectually bankrupt." Vowing that he would not halt the practice, he said, "I don't care what anyone but a court of law thinks. Until a court says otherwise, if I say it's constitutional, it's constitutional."

Carl Klockars, a professor of criminal justice at the University of Delaware, said that unless there is a local ordinance stopping them, police have the right to take someone's picture

Web site keeps hope alive for identifying dead & missing

A Web site dedicated to matching missing persons with unidentified human remains might be the last, best hope for putting names to the bones of children and adults who disappeared long ago.

Called the Doe Network, the three-year-old site features some 4,400 missing persons cases in its database, some dating back to the early 1970s. It provides photographs, reconstructed images and any available information, such as the circumstances of the disappearance. To be included, the cases must be at least nine years old and be considered by law enforcement agencies to have gone cold. All of the 400 or so unidentified victims listed by the Doe Network were believed to have died prior to 2000.

The site is manned by volunteers from the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. At least some are in law enforcement, including dispatchers and forensic artists.

"[It is] probably one of the better Web sites where you can get an overall picture of all missing and unidentified persons, adults and kids," said Jerry Nance, a case manager for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and a consultant for the network.

"One of the problems, particularly with unidentifieds, is in many states they will only post on their site what they have in their state," he told Law Enforcement News. "So to try to find something if you're searching for an unidentified versus a missing person, it's very difficult unless you have your



"Last resorts" to identifying the dead — but sometimes they work.

own database. That alone is one of the biggest strengths they have."

What the volunteers do is come up with a pool of potential matches and then notify law enforcement, said Nance. The work is particularly difficult when it involves unidentified bodies. The network does not use morgue photographs, but rather reconstructions made from clay or sketches.

"We have the ability to do soft tissue reconstruction of the face," said Nance. "If it is either decomposing or traumatized, we can make it look like it wasn't. Those are the easy ones. Your chance of reconstruction is pretty high with that."

More difficult are the skulls, he said. For that, a forensic anthropologist is needed, and there are not many of those around. "Once you get to a point where you do have a generic face, then you're left to guess as to how the lips were. We can pretty much get the nose down," he said, but eye color, hair style and color, and ears are more problematic.

"Ears are probably as good a marker

for identifying people as fingerprints are," Nance told LEN.

Wesley Neville, a forensic artist with the Florence County, S.C., Sheriff's Department, volunteers with Project EDAN (Everyone Deserves A Name), one of the programs the Doe Network sponsors, and is a regional director for the network.

In the past year or so, Neville has worked on more than 20 cases for Project EDAN. Post-mortem sketches, he said, are usually a "last resort" to getting people identified. One recent case involved a three-dimensional reconstruction in clay of a Jane Doe from Campbell County, Tenn., who may have been the victim of a serial killer.

"The Doe Network aids us tremendously because these kinds of cases take up so much time, and organizations like Doe have volunteers that are constantly trying to match people up," Neville told LEN. "Twenty-four hours a day; somebody's on there searching. Law enforcement, we don't have the time or the resources."

PAL pulls the plug on fundraiser & its 95% fee

The National Association of Police Athletic Leagues (PAL) last month pulled out of a four-year contract with a telemarketing firm that took 95 percent of the \$4.2 million it had raised for the "kids and cops" charity.

According to the group's audited financial statement, American Trade and Convention Publications, a Milwaukee-based firm, kept \$4 million from the money that was donated to PAL in 2000. While spending that percentage of funds on telemarketing is not illegal, it goes against the public's expectations, said Bennett Weiner, chief operating officer of the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance of Ar-

lington, Va.

"Certainly the general public expects the lion's share of what they donate to go to the cause that they were asked to support," Weiner told The Cox News Service.

PAL's contract with the firm was negotiated in 1997. A final decision on whether to renew will come in November, said the group's director, Brad Hart. Some board members, he said, were beginning to question the size of American Trade's take.

John Ryan, who sits on the PAL board, said the contract had been entered into with the best intentions of raising money in a difficult climate.

"...but I'm not sure any of that has really happened."

Another client of the American Trade is Broward County's Police Benevolent Association. Under the association's contract, 75 percent of donations go directly to American Trade, with one-quarter available to a charity called Help Our Police Everywhere (HOPE).

Michael Marella, a former president of the National PAL who runs a local PAL group in Bridgeport, Conn., said fund-raising of this type does have its advantages. "The only good thing is it helps the organization, where they don't have to do all the work," he said.

COPS grant for tribal police under scrutiny

Federal auditors are asking what happened to nearly three-quarters of a million dollars in COPS funds after a tribal police force in Penasco, N.M., dissolved several months ago.

Officials from the Picuris Pueblo have refused to discuss the matter with authorities, claiming it is tribal business. "Nobody has the authority to question us on this," said pueblo Gov. Gerald Nailor. "We're working on it."

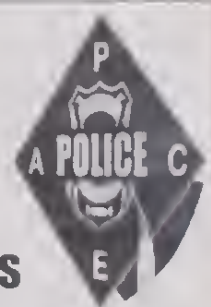
It is unclear how the Justice Department intends to reclaim the funds, should it choose to do so, since the tribal police department no longer exists. At present, the jurisdiction is being policed by agents from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

An audit in July by the Justice

Department's Office of Inspector General found the Picuris Pueblo had received a \$728,125 grant from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services to hire eight new full-time officers and one part-time officer, but had not done so. The pueblo also charged \$173,000 in unauthorized expenses to the COPS office, according to the audit.

Investigators found problems with four of the six essential grant conditions they reviewed, including failure to match federal dollars with local funds, and failure to hire the stipulated number of officers. In addition to the "unallowable and unsupported costs" that totaled more than \$100,000, the pueblo also failed to retain the funded officers positions.

Free Technical Assistance for Establishing College-Degree Personnel Standards for Policing



PACE — the Police Association for College Education — is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving policing by achieving a nationwide minimum educational level of a four-year college degree for officers, as recommended by national commissions and the federal courts.

We provide FREE technical aid to help your agency attain this goal, and thereby increase quality professional service and reduce liability. To learn more, contact:

Police Association for College Education, Inc.
5200 Leeward Lane, Alexandria, VA 22315
Tel.: (703) 971-7935, Fax: (703) 922-2768
E-mail: loumayo@police-association.org
Web: police-association.org

Available early 2003:
"Successful Strategies for Recruiting College-Degreed Officers"

STANDARDS BUILD TRUST



Commission on Accreditation For Law Enforcement Agencies

10306 Eaton Place, Suite 320
Fairfax, VA 22030-2201
800/368-3757 • 703/352-4225
703/591-2206 fax
www.calea.org

Pitt puts consent decree behind it

Continued from Page 1

the five-year agreement. Said Ralph F. Boyd Jr., the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights: "The agency has fulfilled the consent decree requirements and become a model for good police practices that protect citizens' constitutional rights while effectively fighting crime."

After listening to a half-day of testimony, U.S. District Judge Robert Cindrich granted the motion on Sept. 13 over the objections of civil rights groups. Police Chief Robert W. McNeilly, he said, deserved to be commended for putting such programs in place as an early-warning system for spotting troubled officers.

The city's police union, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 1, credits the FOP's national leadership with getting the consent decree lifted.

"We were forced into it and it implemented on us," said Gene Grattan Jr., the president of the local lodge, told Law Enforcement News. "We abided by it, followed through with everything that was put on us, but it was the FOP that got rid of it."

Under Attorney General John Ashcroft, the Justice Department's goal in these cases is to release agencies that come under compliance, said Grattan. "Not like the last administration, where they wanted to put you in there and bury you there forever," he said. "If you weren't in compliance the first five years, they'll put you in for a second five years, and so on."

McNeilly said the department plans to continue the reforms mandated by the 40-page consent decree, specifically, tracking the use of force by officers, searches and seizures, and traffic stops.

"What I've always said in the past is the consent decree is pretty much the DoJ's effort to identify best practices in police departments, put them all together, and to have police agencies employ those practices," he said in an interview with LEN. "I believe they took some of my initiatives and incorporated them into the consent decree, so it was an easy transition for us to work toward what we were expected to achieve through the consent decree."

However, the Office of Municipal Investigations, which probes allegations of police misconduct, will continue to be overseen by a court-appointed monitor, James D. Ginger.

Unlike the police bureau, the OMI has failed to be in compliance, due primarily a backlog of cases. In the spring of 2001, a quarterly assessment of the OMI found that it took an average of 500 days to complete a police investigation, compared to the 290 days recorded by a previous audit. Its error rate was also 12 percent, more than twice the 5-percent figure mandated by the consent decree.

Had the OMI been in compliance by the following quarter, the terms of the decree could have been lifted by July 2003. Instead, the agreement will remain in place, with Ginger having more direct oversight of the OMI and the ability to conduct "more intrusive" audits of the agency. He may conduct what are called "process audits" which examine OMI's procedures instead of just looking at final results.

According to a report in The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, the requirements agreed to by the city include clearing a backlog of cases open longer than 120

days by Feb. 28; maintaining a computerized database to track the status of misconduct complaints and probes, and providing Ginger and the Justice Department with a monthly report detailing new cases, the status of backlogged cases, closed cases and the number of staff handling the complaints.

While McNeilly said he is pleased with the outcome of the petition, the imposition of a consent decree has not been without benefits to the police bureau, he told Law Enforcement News in a 1999 interview. It has allowed the agency to upgrade its policies and procedures, he said.

Yearly training in cultural diversity has become mandatory, as has instruction in use-of-force techniques. The department was also forced to become fully computerized; each officer now has email, and most patrol vehicles have mobile databases.

Perhaps the biggest innovation was the creation of the Performance Assessment Review System (PARS), which collects data from the department's records management system on 18 performance indicators, including criminal investigations; lawsuits filed against the city, the bureau or an officer; officer-involved shootings; commendations, and sick time.

"We have what I think is the most innovative personnel tracking system that's available anywhere in the country," McNeilly told LEN.

Columbus packs up DoJ suit

Continued from Page 1

within the department.

The Justice Department dropped the Columbus lawsuit as gracefully as it could, said Police Chief James G. Jackson. It was unable to gather evidence or prove a practice of constitutional rights violations because "our pattern and practice is really just the opposite — to protect people's constitutional rights and to do the right thing."

As a nationally accredited police agency, he told LEN, the Columbus Division of Police improved its policies and procedures as a matter of course. Little was changed, and certainly not the 128 items the Justice Department had been demanding.

"Of course, a lot of politicians and so forth want to take credit for it, but it really got down to the fact that we weren't doing things improperly as an organization anyway," he said. "Our officers had enough pride in themselves and their fellow officers — and the division of police — and they did battle for us. And we won."

Another factor in the city's victory was the change in administration at the Justice Department. The prosecutors who agreed to dismiss the suit are not the same ones who initiated the legal action during the Clinton Administration, said Capretta.

"The Department of Justice lawyers that came in here had a much different attitude than the ones we began with," he said. "I honestly believe that the change in administration had a lot to do with it, too. They didn't belong in Columbus to start with, and when the new attorneys came in, they were trying to get out of here."

Baveja, Redmond:

Secrets of strategic decision-making

By Alnk Baveja
with Michael Redmond

Police departments across the nation strive, with varying degrees of success, to keep pace with the severity and changing face of crime in their neighborhoods by acquiring new technology, using better problem-solving methods and building relationships with the communities they serve. Available resources and manpower being limited, this growth in crime has presented police administrators with a host of management problems. At the same time, community residents and federal and state justice departments are demanding that police agencies adopt a more proactive approach to controlling crime. But, a senior police officer in upstate New York laments, "We're drowning in a blitz of day-to-day problems and we are being asked to look beyond. How is that done?" This skepticism may not be typical, yet it underscores the need to explore if police departments can indeed adopt a proactive and strategic outlook — and if so, how?

Don't Businesses Have Similar Problems?

Businesses too have limited access to resources. They also have to contend with short-term (daily/weekly/monthly/quarterly) targets and goals. But there is a difference. These short-term goals are meticulously defined to meet the strategic or long-term objectives of the business. Benchmarking is done to identify superior practices, and auditing to study reasons for failures. This information and the relevant learning are then shared among sister-divisions within the business, often on a global scale. As the CEO of the successful Dell Computer Corporation remarked, "It's not that we have not made mistakes — we've made lots of them. But we are really good at learning, and avoid repeating them. That's just common sense and being otherwise would be dumb." Unfortunately, when it comes to police departments throughout this country, this concept of shared learning is only informal and unsystematic.

Can We Talk?

Communication among police departments is inherently difficult. Even if police departments make efforts to document and share information, it may not be useful unless done on a selective basis. Therefore, targeted information-sharing becomes critical for two important reasons. First, each police department deals with circumstances and problems unique to its community. Learning generated from the experiences of a community that is vastly different from one's own may not be easily transferable. Indeed, such learning may even be counterproductive. Therefore, it would be far more useful for police departments that share similarities to communicate.

Secondly, communities that are good candidates for cooperation and shared learning may be geographically dispersed and unknown to one another. Thus they may require a more comprehensive and exhaustive search procedure than the currently prevalent informal channels.

These difficulties may be overcome by using information technology — a computer-based decision tool that will make it easier for police departments across the nation to cooperate and

learn from their respective experiences, thereby fostering a strategic outlook to controlling crime.

The Crime Similarity System

In partnership with the Camden, N.J., and Philadelphia Police Departments, we have developed a computer software tool that enhances the potential for communication among police departments. This artificial intelligence-based software tool uses on-line data sources, including the U.S. Census, the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, the Uniform Crime Reports and other FBI data, and matches

communities will help the user department to identify successful as well as failed strategies. In addition, such dialogue may also alert the user department to crime-related trends that are not yet manifest in its community. For instance, if the Camden Police Department were to use this feature, it would identify Hartford, Conn., as a top matching community. Further analysis, however, reveals that Hartford has a higher rate of drug arrests than Camden; it also has a lower murder and violent crime rate. Perhaps Hartford can provide the Camden P.D. with information on some of the techniques being used there to keep the more serious crime incidents under control despite having similar environmental

calculate an environment-adjusted performance index. This index uses the crime level as the output measure and enforcement resources as the input measure.

Clearly, this software tool has the potential to be a useful learning and decision-support resource for police departments. Importantly, the software synthesizes multiple data sets to derive and extract useful information that can potentially help police chiefs and other law enforcement administrators in making better-informed decisions.

Where to Next?

Our software development effort aims to make information technology accessible to police departments nationwide. In fact, plans are already underway to make the software available on the Internet to facilitate even easier access by police departments. The goal, in a nutshell, is to promote shared learning and strategic decision-making. Since learning results in the broad dissemination of relevant policing techniques, there is great potential for police departments to conserve time, effort and scarce resources. As important, communication among police departments, community groups and voluntary agencies will enhance the potential for synergistic partnerships to control crime.

(Alok Baveja, Ph.D., is an associate professor of information and management sciences at the Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. Dr. Baveja's research focuses on developing decision aids for managers, policy makers and administrators, and he has worked on projects involving illicit drugs, crime, correctional education, location analysis and general management. Michael Redmond, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of computer science at LaSalle University in Philadelphia. His primary research is in the area of case-based reasoning, with ongoing projects dealing with mining useful information from data and synthesizing operational learning.)

Unfortunately, when it comes to police departments throughout this country, the concept of shared learning is only informal and unsystematic.

communities based on a tested and robust analytical technique. To facilitate comparison and matching of communities, a number of individual factors are clustered into three composite dimensions:

¶ **Environment**, consisting of such as factors as population density, median household income, proportion of households receiving public assistance, percent of people in various age groups, percent of households that are owner occupied, percent of adults who haven't completed high school;

¶ **Enforcement**, with factors such as number of police officers, police officers per 100,000 population, number of requests for police service per officer, proportion of police officers assigned to special drug units, per capita police operating budget and the racial match between the police force and the community. (This measure was specifically designed by us and for potentially use in fostering community relations.)

¶ **Crime**, including total violent crime rate, murder rate, drug arrest rate and total non-violent crime rate.

The software was tested initially with the help of the partner police departments, followed by a controlled experiment conducted within a subject population group. The experiment clearly demonstrated the effectiveness of the CSS software in identifying communities that meet the goals of the user police department.

How Does It Work?

The CSS software is a user-friendly, interactive tool that yields matching communities based on target objectives provided by the user police department. This software aims not to replace decision-makers, but to assist them in making informed and strategic decisions. Based on extensive interviews with officials in the two partner police departments, the software was designed to address the following questions:

¶ **Which communities should we talk with?** The software has a "find very similar" feature that lists communities which are similar on all three dimensions — environment, enforcement and crime. Dialogue with such similar commu-

nities and similar law enforcement resources.

¶ **Are there communities that are doing better than us?** The software has "find more effective" and "find more efficient" features that identifies communities that are similar to the user department on the environment dimension, but utilize their resources more effectively. In other words, these communities have achieved lower crime levels with the same enforcement resources as the user department, or they have same crime levels with fewer enforcement resources. Dialogue with such communities may help the user department to identify and adopt policing strategies that are more effective in combating crime. For example, if the Harrisburg, Pa., Police Department were to use the "find more effective" feature, it would find that New Bedford, Mass., is more effective in utilizing its enforcement resources. Closer scrutiny outside the system also reveals that New Bedford has been at the forefront of the community-oriented policing movement. Having adopted the community policing philosophy as early as 1993, is it possible that New Bedford is reaping benefits through more effective resource utilization? Even if this were not so, there is a good possibility that a communication with New Bedford could help officials in Harrisburg to identify and develop more effective enforcement strategies.

¶ **Can we make a case for additional state/federal funding?** Often, stringent state/federal criteria for funding put police departments in the unenviable position of justifying requests for additional funding meticulously. The CSS software has a "funding match" feature that identifies communities with similar environments, but which enjoy access to greater enforcement resources and have lower crime levels. The user police department can cite such communities as examples to argue for additional resources, saying, "Since Community X is similar to ours, we could reduce our crime level to match theirs if we had access to comparable enforcement resources." For instance, if the Hawthorne, Calif., Police Department used this feature, it would identify Yonkers, N.Y., as a potential community to cite for justifying additional enforcement resources. Yonkers has almost twice as many police officers and twice the per capita operating budget as Hawthorne, even though their environments are similar. Perhaps this is why Yonkers enjoys a 50-percent lower murder rate and 60-percent lower violent-crime rate than Hawthorne. Hawthorne can make a compelling case for additional resources citing the example of Yonkers.

In addition to the above features, the CSS software also allows user police departments to

Letters

Facts, please

To the editor:

I just read an article regarding "Driving While Female," in an issue dated June 30, 2002. It appears no real data was supplied to either verify nor deny the intended allegations. There are a few cases cited but no statistical data to indicate if this should even be looked at further, yet as a conclusion the researchers state further studies should be conducted by all agencies and all police agencies should immediately implement training for in-service and recruits.

Why was this article even printed? There are no facts given. It is these types of worthless articles that cause problems for not only law enforcement but any group of people. Maybe someone on your staff should really take more time to read an article for its actual fact-based content before it is put into print.

STEVE DYKE
Baltimore County, Md.

Note to Readers:

The opinions expressed on the Forum page are those of the contributing writer or cartoonist, or of the original source newspaper, and do not represent an official position of Law Enforcement News.

Readers are invited to voice their opinions on topical issues, in the form of letters or full-length commentaries. Please send all materials to the editor.

Coming up in LEN:

Engaging the Nintendo generation — a mayor and high school administrator makes a case for school resource officers.

Portland crowd control tactics draw fire

The Portland, Ore., Police Bureau got it from both sides in August, as protesters accused the agency of resorting to inappropriate force when it used rubber bullets against a crowd, while attendees at a political event headlined by President Bush complained that police did not keep them safe.

More than 1,000 people showed up outside of the Hilton Portland on Aug. 22 to protest Bush and his supporters at a fund-raiser held for Senator Gor-

don Smith. Shortly before 5 p.m., the scene became chaotic. Police, including some from other jurisdictions, tried to move the crowd farther from the hotel, giving oral commands and pushing demonstrators away with batons, according to a report by The Oregonian newspaper. When the protesters did not move, police used pepper spray to try and disperse them.

At another point, three Portland police cars carrying reserve officers were

driven through the crowd. As they tried moving the vehicles behind metal barricades, at least one demonstrator jumped on hood of a cruiser, while others banged on its windows. Two officers fired rubber stingballs at the demonstrators, while a third shot rubber bullets at a protester he said was about to hurl an object at police.

"There were three separate times when less-than-lethal was used during the course of the protest," Sgt. Brian

Schmautz told Law Enforcement News. "We had more than a thousand people protesting, we made a total of five arrests, no one was injured during the protest, we had no property damage during the protest, and officers were able to help keep the President safe at his location. From our perspective, we believe it was an appropriate use of force. Obviously, every time we use force, some citizens don't agree."

The officers who fired the less-than-lethal rounds were members of the department's Rapid Response Team, specially trained to deal with crowd disturbances, said Schmautz.

The police bureau was also taken to task for not providing safe passage for those attending the event. While police had an area cordoned off, there were

several avenues from which people could come and go. At one location, said Schmautz, it looked as if the protesters were moving from barrier to barrier, trying to find a weak point where they could breach the barricades.

"They ended up coming across, or swinging over into one of the areas where folks were coming into the event," he said, "and the number of protesters that descended on that area were greater than the number of officers that we had available to keep the area [accessible] to folks coming in."

Mayor Vera Katz said she believed police acted professionally. Nonetheless, she has asked commanders to report on the adequacy of the perimeter around the hotel, and why police vehicles were driven through the crowd.

HP gets ready to solo

When homicides, robberies and other crimes occur on the state's turnpikes, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol typically calls in other police agencies in the jurisdiction where the incident took place, but that's about to change with the formation of the patrol's first crime scene investigation unit.

A group of 10 troopers began shadowing Tulsa police detectives this month, learning how they conduct investigations into a variety of crimes. "They are spending time with an assortment of squads to get an idea of the type of crimes they may encounter," said Tulsa Sgt. Mike Huff, a homicide su-

pervisor who was placed in charge of the training program.

According to OHPLT Scott Horton, there was a need for an investigative unit on the turnpike system, where the patrol is the primary law enforcement agency. The OHP first contacted the Tulsa department with the idea about a year ago. "It has really been a positive interaction between the two agencies," Huff told The Tulsa World, "and a wonderful networking opportunity."

All of the troopers who are participating in the training are volunteers. They will receive training in investigating robberies, auto thefts, murders, bur-

glaries and sex crimes.

"Lieutenant Horton got the idea after realizing that anytime we have a crime on a turnpike, we have to rely on other law enforcement agencies to assist us," said Trooper George Brown. "But he recognized a problem that needed to be solved. We have convenience stores on the turnpikes that could be robbed. If someone breaks down on the road, they could be assaulted."

In the future, troopers who live in the Oklahoma City area will be trained by local police there, and eventually, all of the turnpikes will have investigators assigned to them, said Horton.

Change starts at the bottom in Lexington

Continued from Page 1

fit the force. But he also knew that he had to put his money where his mouth was. So he and White decided they would give the focus group the tools they needed to make a success of their first project.

"The big change in this team-based strategy was instead of me setting up people for failure, instead of saying no, or you have to prove it to me, we gave them the resources and staff people that knew how to put this together," he told LEN. "We didn't promise to say yes, we said, 'Look, we're going to invest in you the ability to put together a good business plan.'"

It has paid off in other ways, as well. For several years, Casey said he had considered a redeployment plan that would keep the same patrol officers in one of the city's four sectors in lieu of random daily assignments made at roll call.

But his management staff had not been receptive to the idea. The department revisited the concept after imple-

menting its team-based approach, putting together a subcommittee that included a patrol officer who also happened to be a union president.

"That's the last thing our management team would have said three years ago," said Casey. "Include a patrol officer? It would have been, 'Look, it's our job as leaders to make a decision, then we roll it out to the patrol officers.' For them to say we need to involve a patrol officer was huge," he said.

Ultimately, a plan was devised that would pair officers in sectors. It also included a mechanism to solicit bids from people as to which sector they wanted to be assigned to. The department was able to meet the first or second choice of 95 percent of the officers. And the beat plan was not "etched in stone," said Casey. After six or eight months, it was reviewed.

"Some things were working well with the new redeployment, but there were some things we needed to change," he said. "Bottom line is, we did."

Virginia adds detail, clarity to crime picture

Continued from Page 1

as gather more information for use while preparing its budget, "looking for manpower increases and when we're wanting to move functions around," Moore noted.

Something else the switch to incident-based reporting did for some small departments was kick-start their entry into computerized record-keeping, said White. While acknowledging the difficulties of converting to the system, which virtually quadrupled the paperwork, he said the change was worth it.

"I know when it first came on everybody was switching to it, and of course you get the normal griping and complaining," White said. "A small agency with a low crime rate, you could do it by hand. This required everybody going to computer-generated information. It brought us into that world kicking and screaming, but we're in it."

Too much information is not necessarily a good thing, however. Arlington County Police Edward Flynn said he found incident-based reporting to be

more irksome than it is helpful.

"For the amount of work for our individual officers to complete the reports, I, as a manager, get precious little new information that is really helpful to me in plotting crime strategies," he told LEN. "The notion of including all the discrete offenses and breaking them out, really to me has been the equivalent of counting spider legs to spiders."

In addition to the burden it places on officers and data entry clerks, the information provided is not all that useful, said Flynn. The IBR does not, for example, break down burglaries in a way that helps show the differences between offenses committed between strangers and those between acquaintances. The experienced officer learns that not all robberies and burglaries are equal, he said, and a "stunning number" of both crimes take place between people who know each other.

"Yet [IBR] does require an enormous amount of information and I'm not quite sure who it helps, to be honest with you," said Flynn.

Headlines are not enough

Affirmative-action programs looking a little black & blue

Low force is still out on community policing

Scolding the officer of the future

Time to rethink academy & field training

Maternity-leave

Low force is too much
Report on police use of excessive force

To do a tough job in changing times, you need timely, comprehensive, straightforward information. For the latest trends and ideas, turn to **Law Enforcement News**. Twenty-two times a year, we'll put you in touch with the thinking of those who are shaping law enforcement policy and practice.

YES! I'm ready for the professional advantage of **Law Enforcement News**. Enter my one-year subscription and bill me just \$28.00. (Return the coupon to LEN, 555 W. 57th Street, New York, NY 10019.)

Name/Title _____

Agency _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Law Enforcement News

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

(93002)

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

- 4. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Huntsville, Ala. \$495.
- 4-5. Risk Management for Law Enforcement Agencies.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Greer, S.C. \$385.
- 4-8. Crime Analysis Training.** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Kingshill, U.S.V.I. \$525.
- 4-8. Internal Affairs: Professional Standards & Ethics.** Presented by the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration. Dallas. \$545.
- 5-6. Beyond the Technology: Law & Policy Implications of Biometric Use.** Presented by SPARCH and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. New York.
- 7-8. Value Centered Leadership: A Workshop on Ethics, Values & Integrity.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Davenport, Iowa. \$385.
- 7-8. Conducting Effective Employment Interviews.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Sandy, Utah. \$385.
- 7-8. Cultural Awareness: Train the Trainer.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Roanoke, Va. \$385.
- 7-10. Rehabilitation vs. Criminalization: Examining Juvenile Transfers into the Adult Criminal Justice System.** Presented by the Coalition for Juvenile Justice. Miami Beach, Fla. \$190.
- 8-9. Fifth Annual National Survivors of Violence Conference.** Presented by the Harvard School of Public Health & Survivors for Violence Prevention Inc. Boston. \$150.
- 11. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. East Providence, R.I. \$495.
- 11-15. Cultural Diversity: Train the Trainer.** Presented by the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration. Dallas.
- 13-15. Multi-Agency Incident Management for Commanders & Supervisors.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Marietta, Ga. \$480.
- 13-16. Fall Conference of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.** Portland, Ore.
- 14-15. Ethical Standards in Police Service.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Colorado Springs, Colo. \$385.
- 18. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. New York City area. \$495.
- 18-19. Managing the New Breed: Generation X in Law Enforcement.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Sandy, Utah. \$385.
- 18-19. Developing Interpersonal Skills.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Phoenix. \$385.
- 18-22. Criminal Investigative Analysis (Criminal Profiling).** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Indianapolis. \$525.
- 18-22. Crime Analysis Training.** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Grants Pass, Ore. \$525.
- 21-22. Managing Criminal Investigations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. St. Louis. \$400.
- 22-24. 13th Annual International Problem-Oriented Policing Conference.** Presented by the Police Executive Research Forum. San Diego.

For further information:

How to contact organizations listed in calendar of events.

Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training, P.O. Box 8, Montclair, CA 91763 (909) 989-4366. Fax: (909) 476-8171. E-mail: crimecrush@aol.com. Web: <www.alphagroupcenter.com>

Coalition for Juvenile Justice, 1211 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Suite 414, Washington, DC 20036. Fax: (202) 887-0738. Web: <www.juvjustice.org>

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. 1-800-368-3757. Web: <www.calea.org>

Harvard School of Public Health, Attn: Rita Colavincenzo, Division of Public Health Practice, 1557 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02120. Fax: (617) 496-0781.

Institute for Law Enforcement Administration, 5201 Democracy Dr., Plano, TX 75024. Web: <222.theleau.org>

International Association of Chiefs of Police, 1-800-1HF-IACP. Fax: (703) 836-4543.

National Criminal Justice Training Council, P.O. Box 1003, Twin Lakes, WI 53181-1003. (262) 279-5735. Fax: (262) 279-5758. Web: <www.ncjtc.org>

Police Executive Research Forum, 1120 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Suite 930, Washington, DC 20036. (202) 466-7820. Fax: (202) 466-7826. E-mail: rnenhurger@policeforum.org. Web: <www.policeforum.org>

SEARCH, 7311 Greenhaven Dr., Suite 145, Sacramento, CA 95831. (916) 392-2550. Web: <www.search.org>

DECEMBER

- 2. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Ocala, Fla. \$495.
- 2-4. Police Law & Legal Issues: What Every Police Manager Needs to Know About the Law.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Sparks, Nev. \$460.
- 2-6. Criminal Investigative Analysis (Criminal Profiling).** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Cambridge, Ont., Canada. \$525.
- 2-6. Crime Analysis Training.** Presented by the Alpha Group Center for Crime & Intelligence Analysis Training. Fort Lauderdale, Fla. \$525.
- 5-6. Less-Lethal Force Options: Selection & Policy Considerations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Santa Ana, N.M. \$385.
- 5-6. Rapid Deployment to High-Risk Incidents.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Greer, S.C. \$385.
- 9. Use of Force Instructor Certification Course.** Presented by the National Criminal Justice Training Council. Chicago area. \$495.
- 9-10. Fear Management & Survival Resources.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Oklahoma City, Okla. \$385.
- 9-11. Contemporary Patrol Administration.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Gastonia, N.C. \$460.
- 9-11. Forensic Investigations for First Responders.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Carson City, Nev. \$460.

Little good news in hunt for Baton Rouge serial killer

They think he drives a white pickup truck, but the clues that might lead Baton Rouge investigators to the killer of three women in the past 10 months seem to be few and far between — and that's not good news for the city's female population, which has been thrown into a panic by the unidentified serial murderer.

It was only in July that the deaths of Gina Wilson Green and Charlotte Murray Pace were linked by police. Green, a 41-year-old nurse, was strangled in her home on Sept. 24, 2001, while Pace, a 22-year-old graduate student, was stabbed to death in her house on May 31. The third victim, a 44-year-old antiques dealer and artist named Pamela Kinamore, was found with her throat slit under the Whiskey Bay Bridge on July 16. DNA evidence collected from Kinamore's body was matched to the first two murders, leading local, state and federal investigators to announce that there is a serial killer on the loose in Baton Rouge.

What seems most frightening, residents told The New York Times, is the idea that three professional women of different ages all apparently opened their doors willingly to their killer. Based on the assertion by experts that a serial killer is more likely to be someone who blends in — well spoken, well dressed and in his 20s or 30s — investigators are considering the possibility that he posed as a deliveryman, or even a police officer. There were no signs of forced entry in either Pace's or Green's home, although signs of struggle were evident inside.

The one consistent tip has been the sighting of a white pickup truck at approximately the time Kinamore was killed, according to The Times. A number of people in the Baton Rouge area reported seeing such a vehicle with a nude woman slumped in the front seat. Officers in St. Tammany Parish are investigating the rape of a woman who said her attacker drove a white pickup, although Baton Rouge police have not said whether any of the victims were sexually assaulted.

Police have been checking evidence from unsolved rapes, attempted kidnappings and murders from neighboring parishes.

"We have met with numerous other jurisdictions discussing some of the cases," Lieut. Darrell O'Neal of the East

Baton Rouge parish sheriff's office told The Associated Press. "We've had other agencies contact us about possible links, but so far only three [murders] have been linked. "We're all working together, and we're not going to overlook anything. We're not going to disregard any of the other cases."

But there are not that many unsolved cases to look into. Authorities surveyed by The AP in Lake Charles, Lafayette, Bossier City, Hammond, Kenner and other parish sheriff's offices said they did not have any cases to review.

"We have one [murder] that occurred back in 1998 that we have submitted some information for comparison," said Bill Landry, police chief in

Not much to go on, other than a consistent sighting of a white pickup truck.

Gonzales, a city about 25 miles east of Baton Rouge.

While there is not much to indicate that the rapist in the St. Tammany Parish case and the serial killer are linked, said a spokeswoman for the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Department, the white truck has led to speculation that the murderer could have been involved in two attempted kidnappings in Ascension and Livingston parishes. Investigators are checking to see if anyone recently had a white truck painted black, the color of the pickup that the suspect in those cases was described as driving.

One obstacle confronting detectives is that Louisiana has no DNA database to compare evidence in criminal investigations, according to State Police experts. All comparisons have to be done by hand, Capt. Brian Wynne, who runs the state police crime lab, told The (Baton Rouge) Advocate.

Last month, analysts began checking a database of samples taken from people convicted of certain crimes and from the scenes of unsolved cases to see if matches could be made that would

establish a link to the Baton Rouge killer. Local samples will be uploaded to the federal DNA database, and samples will be submitted regularly to it, said Col. Terry Landry.

There are some 2,000 analyzed samples at the crime lab, and another 15,000 that have yet to be analyzed, said Wynne.

In the meantime, women in Baton Rouge have begun arming themselves and taking other precautions. According to William Saint, manager of Precision Firearms and Indoor Range, sales of firearms, pepper spray and Mace have soared. Even women who never thought of owning a gun have said that they now feel they need one, he told The Times.

"I go home and lock the door behind me, then check all the doors, then go in all the rooms and check out the closets," said Karen Richardson. "I don't go to the mall. I make sure no one follows me too closely. I get my car moving as fast as I can, just in case. I do this. It sounds ridiculous."

In other parts of the country this summer, two apparent serial killers took their own lives. Police tracked Richard Evonitz to a Sarasota, Fla., apartment after he kidnapped a 15-year-old Lexington, S.C., girl in June. The victim escaped while he slept. A search of his home uncovered newspaper clippings and handwritten notes about the 1997 murders of Kati and Kristin Lisk, ages 12 and 15, of Spotsylvania County, Va. Their deaths have been linked to the abduction and slaying of another teenager seven months earlier, 16-year-old Sofia Silva, also of Spotsylvania County.

In Missouri, Maury Travis, the suspected serial killer of as many as 20 women, hanged himself in the St. Louis County Jail on June 10, three days after being arrested on federal kidnapping charges related to the murders.

Police found videotapes that indicated Travis bound and tortured women, mainly drug-addicted prostitutes, before killing them and dumping their bodies in St. Louis, and in St. Charles, Madison, St. Clair and Monroe counties. One captive was shown on tape being zapped with a stun gun in the chest. Another was wearing sunglasses painted black so she could not see. All of the victims are believed to have been strangled.

Immigration prosecutions jumped sharply before 9/11

Prosecutions for immigration violations, which have been rising since the passage of the 1996 Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, more than doubled by the year 2000, according to a new study by the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

In "Immigration Offenders in the Federal Criminal Justice System, 2000," researchers found that 16,495 people were referred that year to federal prosecutors in cases where a suspected immigration offense was the most serious charge. Four years earlier, that figure was 7,100, and a decade prior to that, the number of suspected offenders ranged from 5,500 to 8,800.

The number of those actually prosecuted also grew, from 6,605 in 1996

to 15,613 in 2000, said the report.

Under the act, the number of Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) law enforcement officers was dramatically increased, from 12,403 to 17,654, with the Border Patrol receiving nearly two-thirds of the additional sworn personnel. The five states that saw the greatest increases in personnel — Texas, Arizona, California, New York and Florida — accounted for approximately 75 percent of the growth in referrals to U.S. attorneys in 2000.

Not only did the number of offenders grow, but changes in federal sentencing policy between 1985 and 2000 increased the likelihood that they would serve time if convicted, and that the period of incarceration would be longer.

The percentage of offenders put behind bars increased during that time from 57 percent to 91 percent, said the report. This, it said, accounted for an overall increase of 14 percent in the federal prison population during that time.

Eighty-seven percent of the 14,450 federal defendants charged with immigration violations were Hispanic, more than 9 in 10 were male, and more than half were age 30 or younger, said the report. More than two-thirds of those charged in 2000 had been arrested before, and 35.6 percent had been arrested five times or more. Roughly half had been convicted of a felony, with violent crimes accounting for 18.4 percent of those convictions.

Law Enforcement News

A publication of John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY

Vol. XXVIII, No. 584

September 30, 2002

Columbus's brave new world!

Rather than accept a federal consent decree,
the city & its police union decided to fight the
Justice Department and won. Police
say the historic victory is a win for the
department, the community,
for everyone. **Page 1**

A toast to bottoms-up management:
How one department is making it work. **Page 1.**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY
Law Enforcement News
555 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
New York, N.Y.
Permit No. 1302

What They Are Saying:

"That's amazing to me, when you have 24- and 25-year-olds who can't run, can't do push-ups.
This is not a triathlete-type of physical."

— Portland, Maine, Police Chief Michael Chitwood, on one of the reasons his department is under-strength —
a problem that is hampering community policing efforts in the city. (Story, Page 6.)